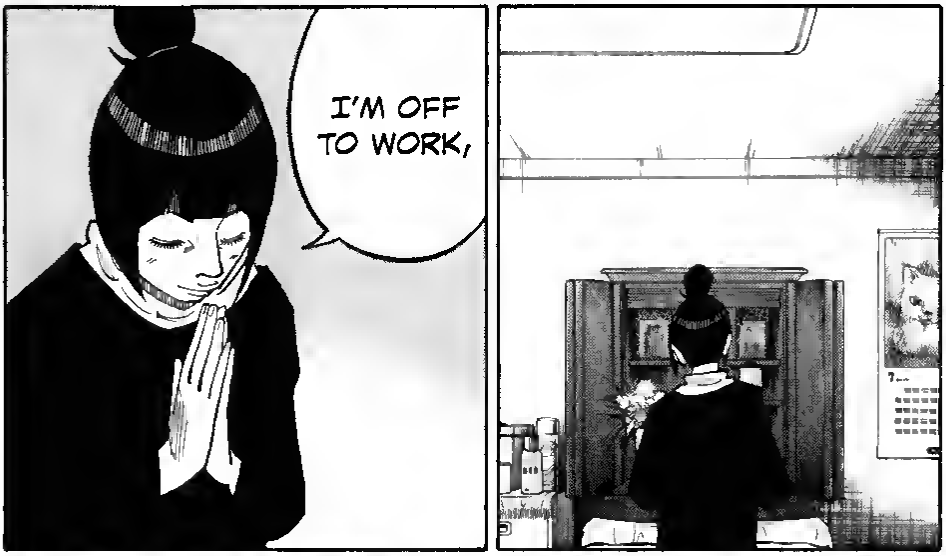
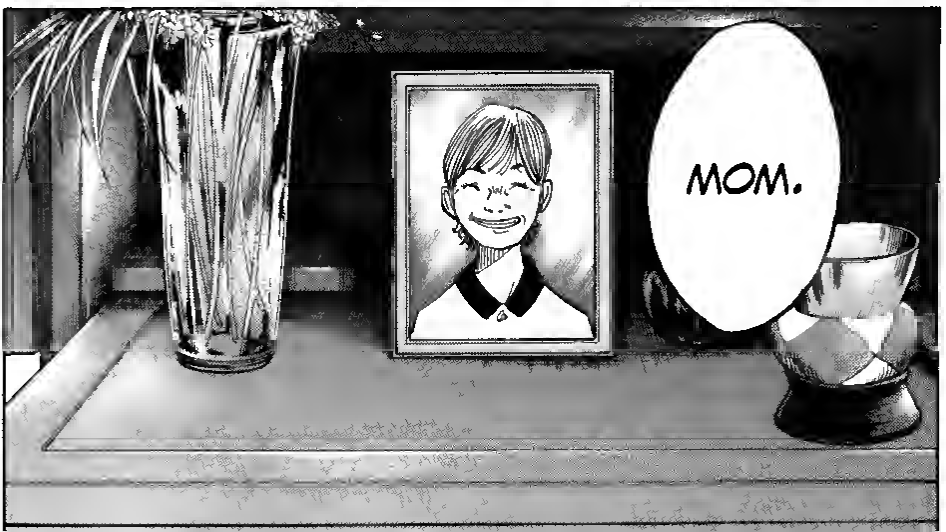
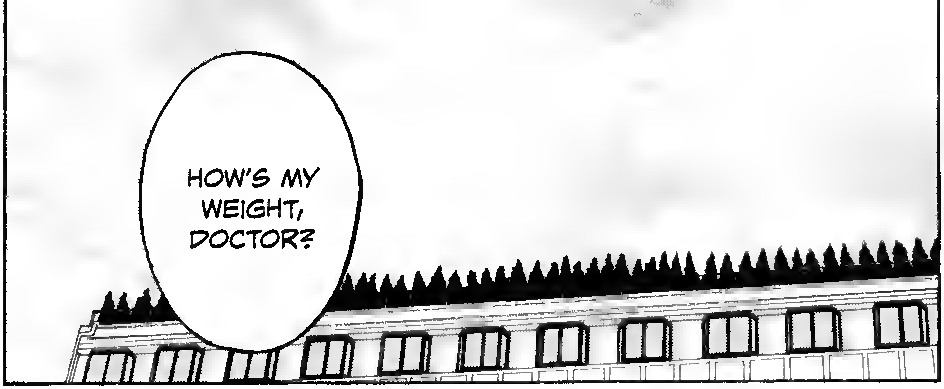
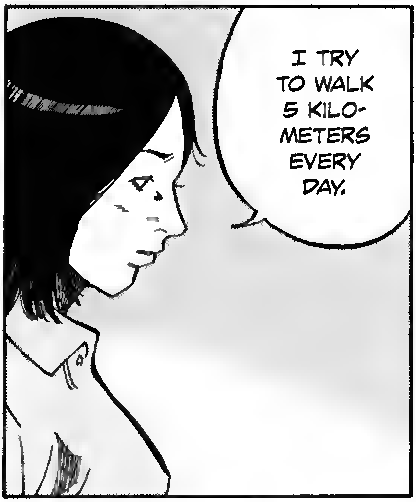
TRACK 10

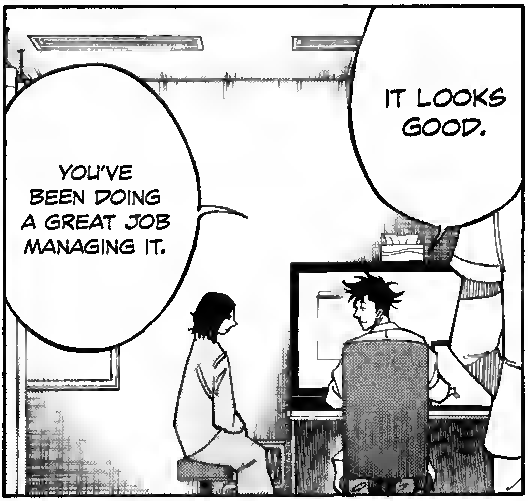
NATURAL BIRTH VS C-SECTION


I'M OFF TO WORK,

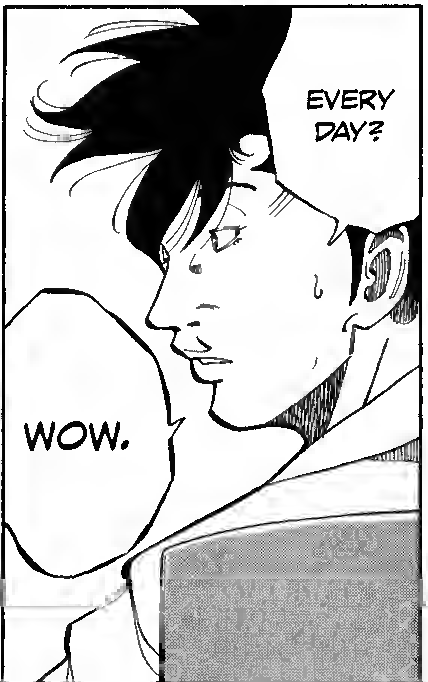

MOM.


HOW'S MY WEIGHT, DOCTOR?


I TRY TO WALK 5 KILO-METERS EVERY DAY.


IT LOOKS GOOD.
YOU'VE BEEN DOING A GREAT JOB MANAGING IT.

I DON'T EAT SWEETS AT ALL.
AND I'VE BEEN WATCHING WHAT I EAT.


EVERY DAY?
WOW.

I'VE GOT TO GIVE THIS MY ALL.

I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE MY BABY IN A HOSPITAL. I'M GOING TO DO IT AT THE BIRTH CENTER, NO MATTER WHAT.
...I SEE.
HOW-EVER,
PREGNANCY AND CHILD-BIRTH ARE VERY UNPREDICTABLE. ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN.
I DON'T FORSEE YOU HAVING ANY PROB-LEMS DURING LABOR AND DELIVERY.
AND YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB WITH DIET AND EXER-CISE.
YOUR PREG-NANCY'S GONE SMOOTHLY SO FAR,
5

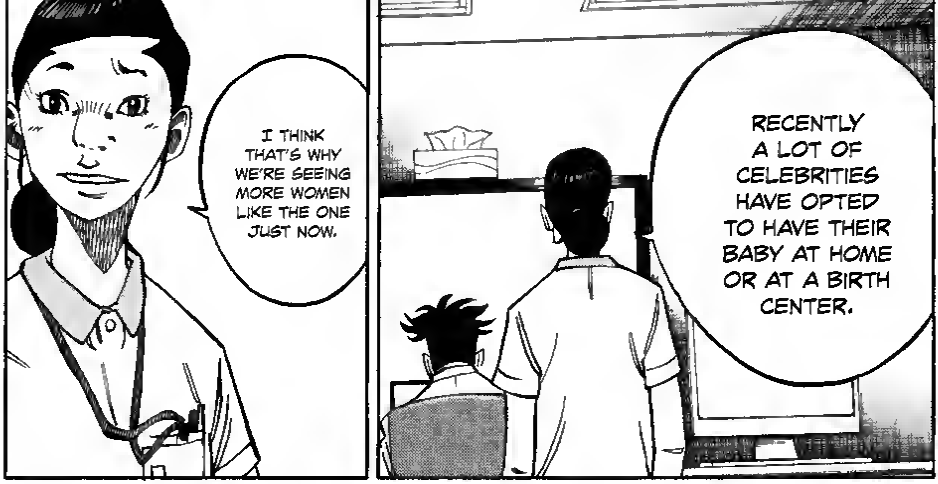
IF SOMETHING DOES HAPPEN,
.....
YOU'D HAVE TO BE ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL.
I DON'T WANT TO BE INDUCED.
AND I CERTAINLY DON'T WANT YOU CUTTING ME OPEN FOR A C-SECTION!
.....
WE TRY NOT TO USE LABOR-INDUCING DRUGS...
...UNLESS IT'S ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.
THE SAME GOES FOR C-SECTIONS.
WE ONLY PERFORM THEM IF YOU OR YOUR BABY'S LIFE IS IN DANGER.

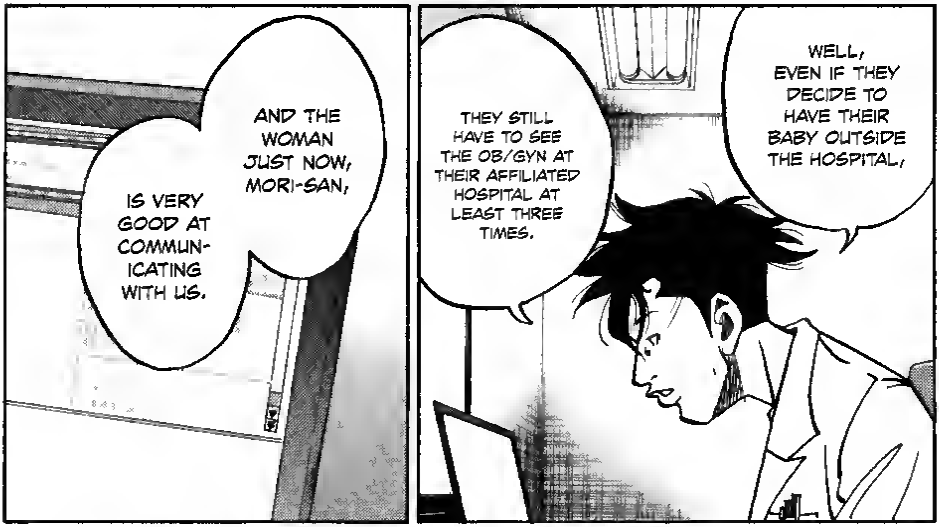
I'M GOING TO GIVE BIRTH TO MY BABY ALL ON MY OWN.
NO MATTER WHAT.

I'M GOING TO DO IT THE WAY NATURE INTENDED.

NO MATTER WHAT...

SHE'S REALLY DETERMINED TO HAVE A NATURAL BIRTH.
SURE SOUNDS LIKE IT.


I THINK THAT'S WHY WE'RE SEEING MORE WOMEN LIKE THE ONE JUST NOW.
RECENTLY A LOT OF CELEBRITIES HAVE OPTED TO HAVE THEIR BABY AT HOME OR AT A BIRTH CENTER.


AND THE WOMAN JUST NOW, MORI-SAN,
IS VERY GOOD AT COMMUN-ICATING WITH US.
THEY STILL HAVE TO SEE THE OB/GYN AT THEIR AFFILIATED HOSPITAL AT LEAST THREE TIMES.
WELL, EVEN IF THEY DECIDE TO HAVE THEIR BABY OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL,

MANY WOMEN WHO ADVOCATE NATURAL BIRTH DESPISE OBSTETRICIANS,
AND WILL BARELY GIVE US THE TIME OF DAY.

BUT I DON'T MIND.
IT IS!
THAT MUST BE ROUGH.
THOSE WOMEN WANT TO GIVE BIRTH ON THEIR OWN TERMS,
AND I THINK THAT'S A GREAT THING.
HOPING THAT SOMEONE ELSE WILL DO ALL THE HARD WORK FOR THEM.
ESPECIALLY SINCE THERE ARE A LOT OF WOMEN WHO COME TO THE HOSPITAL TO GIVE BIRTH,

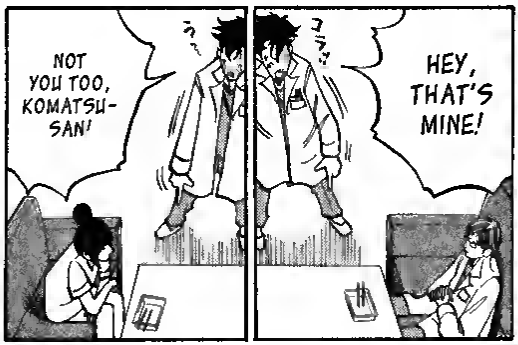
THERE ARE NO RULES ABOUT HOW YOU SHOULD GO ABOUT HAVING YOUR BABY.
OH, IT'S THAT MOLE LADY AGAIN.
IN RECENT YEARS, MORE AND MORE WOMEN ARE TAKING THEIR LIVES INTO THEIR OWN HANDS,
SLURP
SLURP
AND CHOOSING TO GIVE BIRTH NATURALLY AT A BIRTH CENTER.
YEAH...
SHE'S THE HEAD OF THE NONOMURA BIRTH CENTER. PRETTY SURE WE'RE THEIR GO-TO HOSPITAL.
YOU CAN GIVE BIRTH HOWEVER YOU LIKE, WHEREVER YOU LIKE, AS LOUDLY AS YOU LIKE!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO GIVE BIRTH IN AN OPERATING ROOM.

AND IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, YOU'LL PASS THEM RIGHT ALONG TO US.
I WANT EVERY WOMAN TO ENJOY THE MIRACLE OF CHILD-BIRTH.
I BET YOU REALLY ENJOY THAT.
.....
OF COURSE, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN DURING LABOR AND DELIVERY.
BUT WE HAVE DOCTORS ON CALL WHO WILL JUMP RIGHT IN TO TAKE CARE OF YOU!
HUMANS, LIKE ALL ANIMALS, HAVE THE INNATE ABILITY TO GIVE BIRTH ALL BY THEM-SELVES!
OUR BIRTH CENTER STRIVES TO DRAW OUT AND STRENGTHEN THAT NATURAL ABILITY...
...WITH OUR TOP-QUALITY CARE.
HMPH.

MIDWIVES DON'T HAVE AS MANY PATIENTS,
SO THEY CAN SPEND A LOT MORE TIME GETTING TO KNOW THE PATIENT AND GIVE THEM MORE PERSONALIZED AND DETAILED CARE.
WELL, SHE IS KINDA RIGHT ABOUT THAT.
MIDWIVES ARE ALWAYS GOING AROUND SPOUTING OFF THAT CRAP...
...ABOUT "PERSONALIZED AND DETAILED CARE".
EXCUSE ME?
THANKS TO THAT, WE'VE GOT BOATLOADS OF PATIENTS...
...ALL WHINING ABOUT WANTING "BETTER SERVICE" AND A "NATURAL BIRTH".

THE HIGHEST QUALITY CARE FOR A PREGNANT WOMAN...
...IS CARE THAT GETS THEM AND THEIR CHILD OUT OF THE HOSPITAL *ALIVE.*
I THINK IT'S *RIDICULOUS* THAT ANYONE WOULD WANT TO HAVE THEIR BABY AT A BIRTH CENTER...
...WITHOUT A LICENSED OB/GYN PRESENT.
WELL, LOOK AT MISTER *HIGH-AND-MIGHTY* OVER HERE.
ONLY TOOK FIFTEEN YEARS FOR YOU TO GO FROM A *SNIVELING SCRUB OF AN INTERN* TO A *SNARKY ASSHOLE.*

YOU DOCTORS DON'T EVEN TAKE ONE LOOK AT THE PERSON BEYOND THE CLIPBOARD.
AND YOU IGNORE WHATEVER US MIDWIVES HAVE TO SAY. IT'S LIKE YOU CAN'T TEAR YOURSELVES AWAY FROM THE MACHINES AND MONITORS.
AND YOU'RE ALWAYS SO QUICK TO SHOUT "C-SECTION!" AND RIP THEM OPEN.
……


HEY, THAT'S MINE!
NOT YOU TOO, KOMATSU-SAN!

HEY, SHINO-MIYA,
……
HAVE YOU SEEN MY INSTANT YAKISOBA?

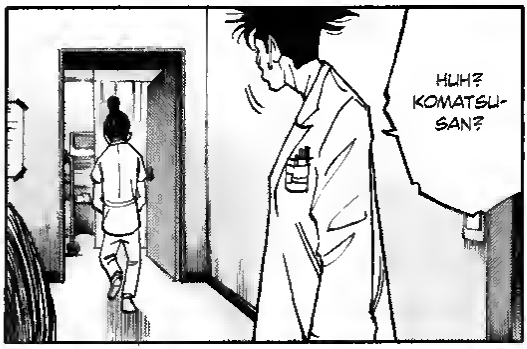
YOU BOTH STOLE MY YAKI-SOBA?!

YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I DO!
フルフル
SERIOUSLY, SHINOMIYA,
YOU CAN'T JUST STEAL SOMEONE ELSE'S YAKISOBA!
YOU DO REALIZE...

THAT ONE IN TEN WOMEN END UP NEEDING A C-SECTION?
HUH?

MATERNAL MORBIDITY AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES HAVE NEVER BEEN LOWER.
……
AND THAT'S ALL THANKS TO MODERN OBSTETRIC MEDICINE.

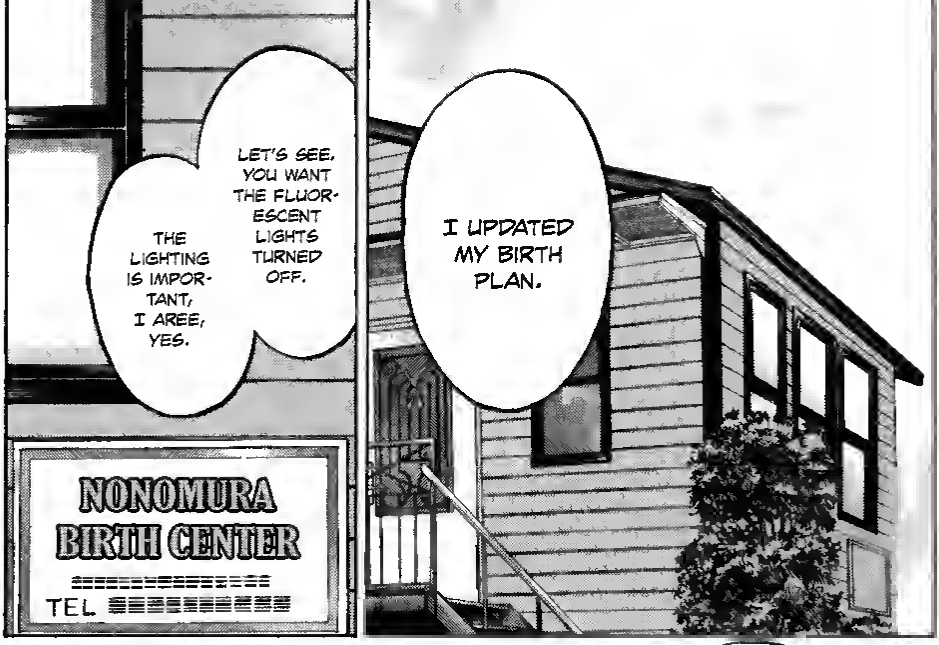
BUT SURE, LET'S GO BACK TO LEAVING EVERYTHING TO MIDWIVES.
WE ALL REMEMBER HOW *GREAT* THAT WORKED OUT FOR EVERYONE IN THE *1940S*.
……


HUH? KOMATSU-SAN?

I KNOW, OKAY? CHRIST!
ハァ…

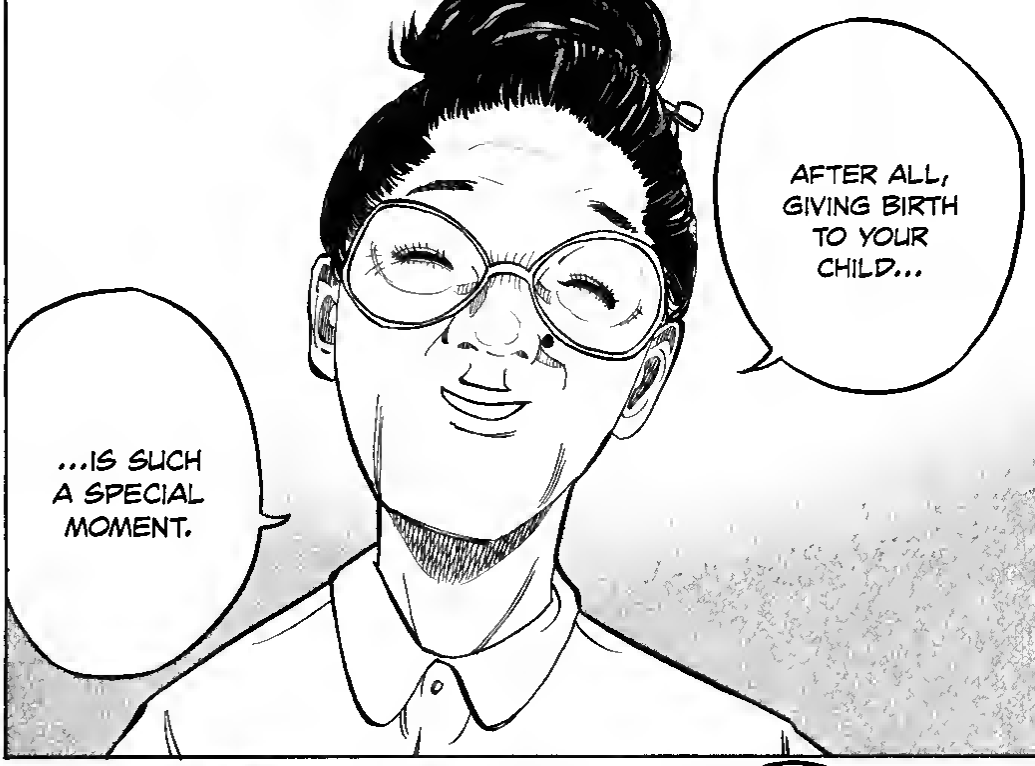
TCH.

THEY FOLLOW EVERYTHING IN MY BIRTH PLAN.
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
HEY, SHINO-MIYA,
IT'S REALLY COMFORT-ING TO KNOW THAT I CAN DO IT MY WAY.
HEY, ISN'T THAT MORI-SAN?
I'M SO EXCITED TO HAVE MY BABY HERE AT THE NONOMURA BIRTH CENTER.


I UPDATED MY BIRTH PLAN.
LET'S SEE. YOU WANT THE FLUORESCENT LIGHTS TURNED OFF.
THE LIGHTING IS IMPORTANT, I AREE, YES.
NONOMURA BIRTH CENTER
TEL

AND LAVENDER OIL!
THAT'LL BE VERY RELAXING.

I'D ALSO LIKE MY HUSBAND TO CUT THE UMBILICAL CORD.
YES, OF COURSE.
WE'LL MAKE SURE TO FOLLOW THE WONDERFUL PLAN YOU'VE PUT TOGETHER.



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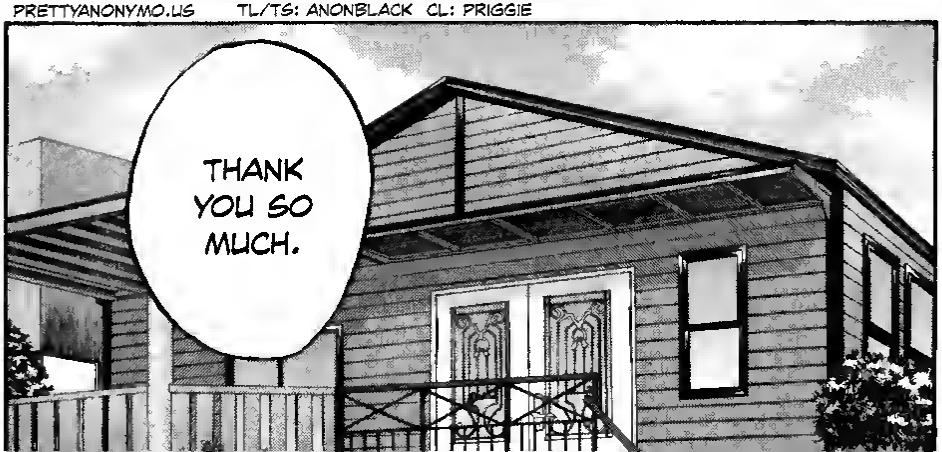
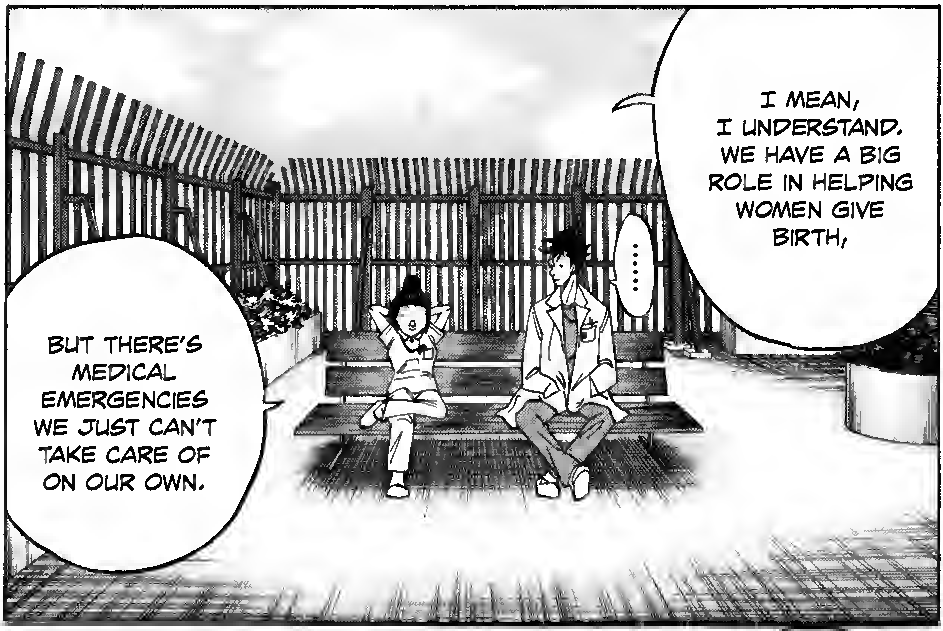


...HUH.
SO THAT'S WHY YOU AND SHINOMIYA HAVE BEEN BUTTING HEADS LATELY.

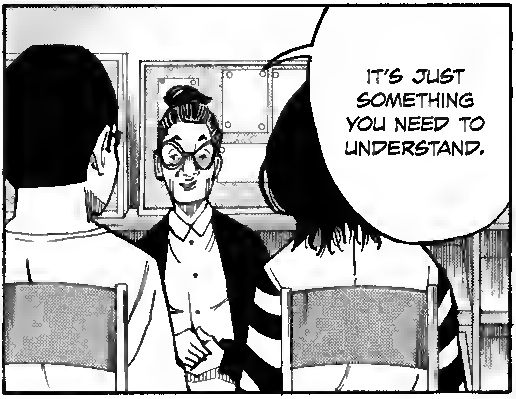

I MEAN, I UNDERSTAND. WE HAVE A BIG ROLE IN HELPING WOMEN GIVE BIRTH,
.....
BUT THERE'S MEDICAL EMERGENCIES WE JUST CAN'T TAKE CARE OF ON OUR OWN.

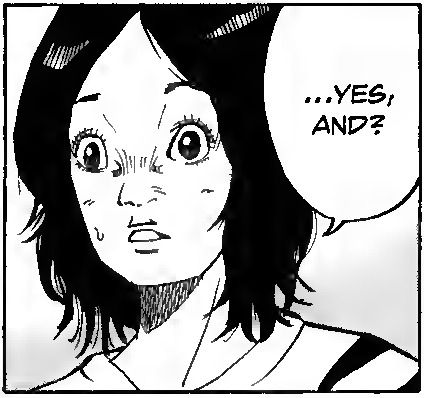
DR. SHINOMIYA JUST WENT WAY TOO FAR WITH IT.
.....
IT JUST PISSES ME OFF SO MUCH WHEN PEOPLE TALK SHIT ABOUT MIDWIVES.

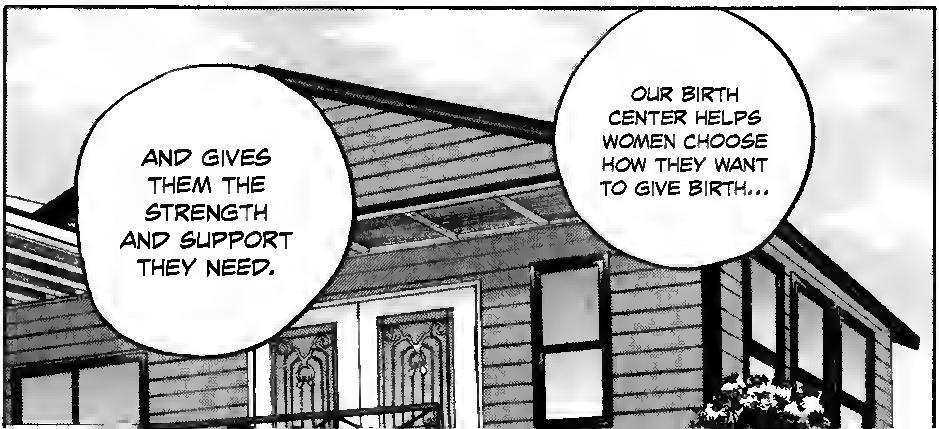
'CAUSE MY MOM WAS A MIDWIFE.

HOW WAS YOUR BIRTH CLASS?
IT WAS GREAT!
TEL
I BROUGHT MY HUSBAND ALONG TODAY.
I FEEL REALLY PREPARED NOW.
WE'RE GOING TO DO OUR BEST...
...TO CARRY OUT THE BIRTH PLAN THE TWO OF YOU HAVE WRITTEN.
THERE IS ONE THING YOU NEED TO KNOW.
THANK YOU.

OUR BIRTH CENTER...
...IS NOT A HOSPITAL.

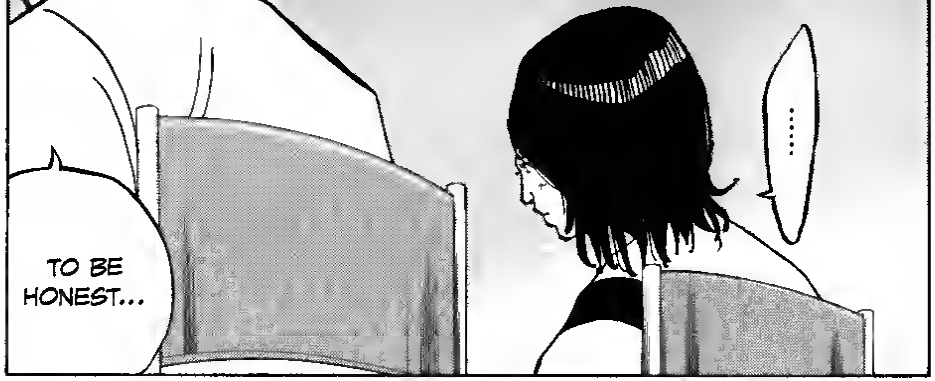

IT'S JUST SOMETHING YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND.


...YES, AND?


OUR BIRTH CENTER HELPS WOMEN CHOOSE HOW THEY WANT TO GIVE BIRTH...
AND GIVES THEM THE STRENGTH AND SUPPORT THEY NEED.

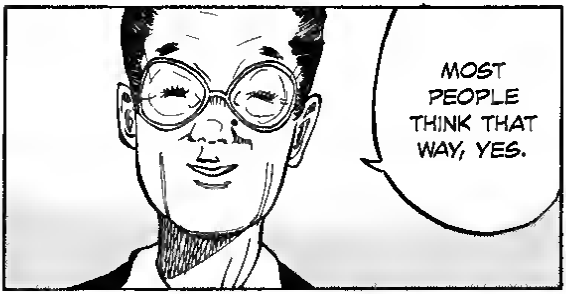
IF YOU SUFFER BIRTH COMPLICATIONS OR ARE IN NEED OF SPECIALIZED MEDICAL CARE,
BUT WE DON'T PROVIDE MEDICAL CARE.
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO TREAT YOU.
SO, AT ANY TIME DURING THE BIRTH PROCESS, IF I DECIDE THAT YOU NEED MEDICAL CARE,
.....
I NEED YOU TO GO IMMEDIATELY TO ST. PERSONA HOSPITAL...
...AND COOPERATE WITH ALL MEDICAL PERSONNEL.

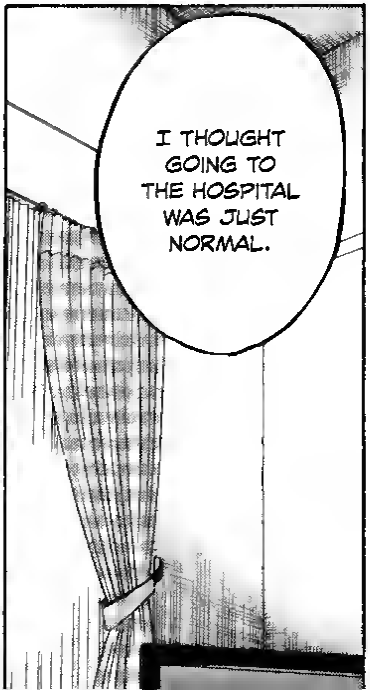
I KNOW.
I WANT TO GIVE BIRTH NATURALLY, NO MATTER WHAT.
BUT...
I'VE WORKED SO HARD UNTIL NOW TO MAKE SURE THAT I CAN.
.....
I KNOW JUST HOW HARD YOU'VE WORKED...
...TO BE THE MOTHER YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE.
BUT EVEN WITH ALL THAT...
...ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN WHEN YOU GO INTO LABOR.

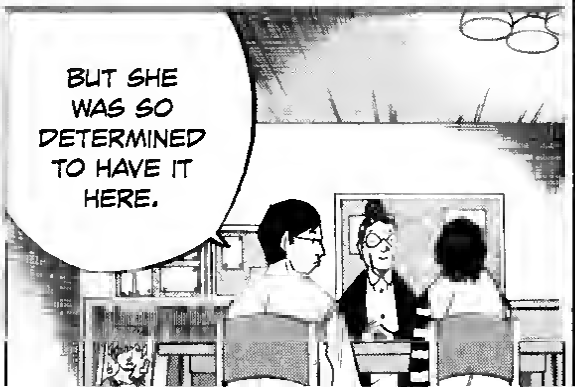

TO BE HONEST...
.....

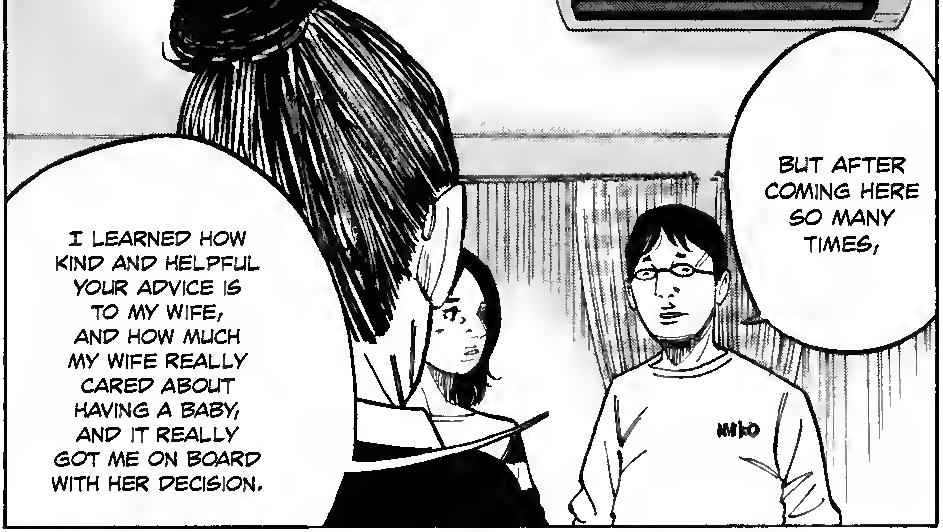
HONESTLY, I WASN'T REALLY COMFORTABLE WITH THE IDEA...
...OF GIVING BIRTH AT A BIRTH CENTER.

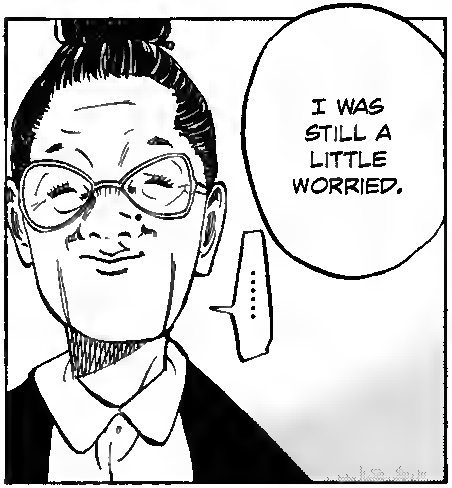
I'M A LITTLE RELIEVED TO HEAR THIS.
SWEE-TIE...


MOST PEOPLE THINK THAT WAY, YES.


I THOUGHT GOING TO THE HOSPITAL WAS JUST NORMAL.


BUT SHE WAS SO DETERMINED TO HAVE IT HERE.


I LEARNED HOW KIND AND HELPFUL YOUR ADVICE IS TO MY WIFE, AND HOW MUCH MY WIFE REALLY CARED ABOUT HAVING A BABY, AND IT REALLY GOT ME ON BOARD WITH HER DECISION.
BUT AFTER COMING HERE SO MANY TIMES,


I WAS STILL A LITTLE WORRIED.
.....

EVEN SO...

I NEVER GET TIRED OF IT.
I JUST LOVE THE MIRACLE OF LIFE.

I'VE HELPED OVER FIVE THOUSAND WOMEN GIVE BIRTH.

CHILDBIRTH IS ONE OF THE MOST PRECIOUS MOMENTS IN A WOMAN'S LIFE.
THAT'S WHY I TRY MY BEST, EVERYDAY, TO GIVE EVERY WOMAN...
...THE MOMENT THEY DESERVE.
EVEN SO, MORI-SAN,
NOTHING IS MORE IMPORTANT...
...THAN THE LIFE OF YOUR CHILD.

MY FAMILY RAN A LITTLE BIRTH CENTER OUT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.
THAT'S WHY MY DAD LEFT HER WHEN I WAS IN SECOND GRADE.
MY MOM WAS ALWAYS OUT HELPING WOMEN WITH THEIR DELIVERIES...
...SO SHE WAS NEVER HOME.
DADDY'S LEAVING, MOMMY!
MOMMY!
SHE WAS TOO BUSY WITH WORK TO WATCH HIM LEAVE.
MOMMY, DADDY'S LEAVING!

I HUNG OUT WITH A LOT OF UNSAVORY CHARACTERS.
I WENT DOWN A REALLY BAD PATH IN HIGH SCHOOL.
NOW THAT I THINK OF IT,
MAYBE PART OF THE REASON I WAS SUCH A DELINQUENT BACK THEN...
YOU CAN STILL BE IN A GANG IF YOU'RE SHORT!
HOW DID THAT WORK, WITH HOW SHORT YOU ARE?
I GOT ARRESTED AND TAKEN DOWN TO THE POLICE STATION.
ONE DAY, WHILE OUT ON A RIDE WITH THE GANG,
...BECAUSE I WAS TRYING TO MAKE UP FOR MY HEIGHT.
交通安全

I'VE GOT TO HEAD BACK TO WORK.
RUMIKO.
MY MOM CAME TO BAIL ME OUT.
THE FUCK?
ARE YOU FUCKING KIDDING ME?! YOU'RE BAILING ME OUT OF FUCKING JAIL AND YOU'RE GOING ON ABOUT WORK?!
YOU'RE COMING.
YOU'RE GOING TO WATCH.

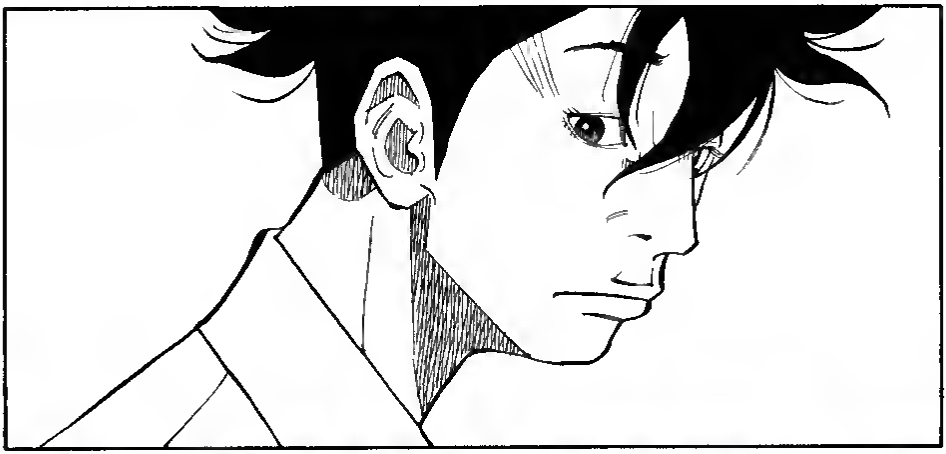
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME
.....
IS IT ALRIGHT IF MY DAUGHTER COMES IN TO WATCH?
I SAW SOMEONE GIVE BIRTH.
MA-MA!
HEY, SUZUKI-SAN,
...OF COURSE IT'S ALRIGHT.
小松助産院
GLANCE
BA DUMP!

YOU CAN DO IT!
C'MON, MOM!
IT WAS LIKE A BATTLE-FIELD.
MAMA!
I CAN SEE THE HEAD!
NOW PUSH!
IT WAS SO EXCITING.
Y...
I COULDN'T HELP IT...

I SHOUTED OUT LOUD!
YOU CAN DO IT!
WAH!
WAHH!
KH...

TAKE A GOOD LOOK...
WAHH!
RUMIKO.
WAHH!
WAHH!
...AT THE SMILE ON HER FACE.
.....
.....
LOOK, YOU LITTLE DELINQUENT.
OW!

THAT'S HOW I GAVE BIRTH TO YOU, YA KNOW.
...AND THAT'S WHEN I DECIDED TO BECOME A MIDWIFE.
...BUT A FEW YEARS AFTER THAT,
YEAH. I DON'T THINK I'LL EVER GET TO HER LEVEL.
SOUNDS LIKE YOUR MOM WAS A GREAT MIDWIFE.
WOW,



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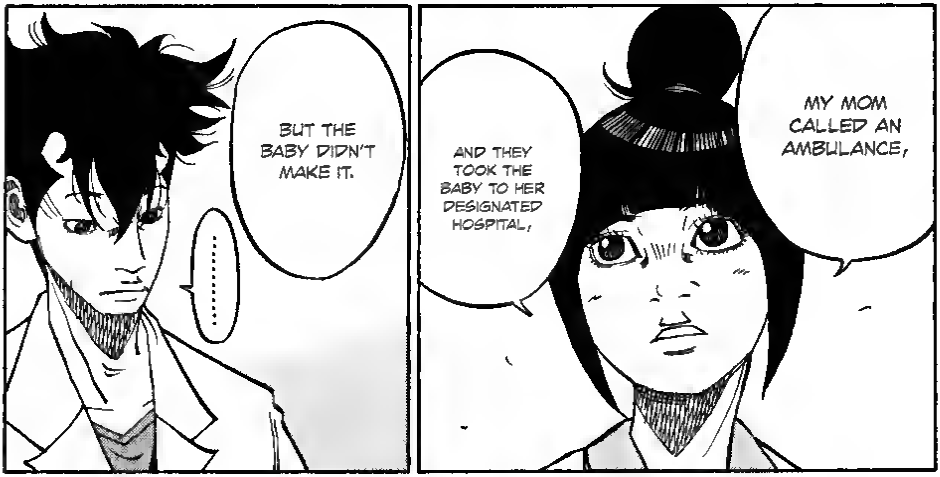
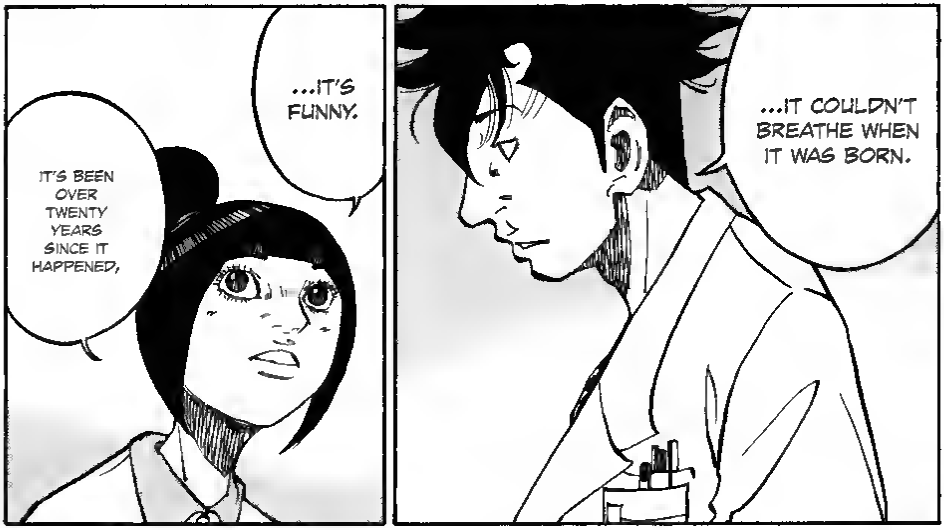
...RIGHT AFTER IT WAS BORN, IT STARTED CRYING, SO MY MOTHER THOUGHT IT WAS ALRIGHT,
BUT THE BABY'S CONDITION QUICKLY TOOK A TURN FOR THE WORSE.


MY MOM CALLED AN AMBULANCE,
AND THEY TOOK THE BABY TO HER DESIGNATED HOSPITAL,
BUT THE BABY DIDN'T MAKE IT.
.....

AFTER-WARDS,
WHEN THEY DID A POST-MORTEM X-RAY,
WAIT, THAT MEANS THE BABY'S DIAPHRAGM DIDN'T FORM COMPLETELY,
AND THE ABDOMINAL ORGANS MOVED UP INTO THE SPACE WHERE THE LUNG WAS SUPPOSED TO BE GROWING.
.....
THEY FOUND THAT GAS FROM THE DIGESTIVE TRACT HAD BUILT UP IN THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE THORACIC CAVITY,
PUTTING A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF PRESSURE ON THE LEFT LUNG.

YEAH, IT WAS A CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA.

THE BABY WAS COMPLETELY FINE IN THE WOMB,
BUT WITHOUT FULLY-FORMED LUNGS...


...IT'S FUNNY.
IT'S BEEN OVER TWENTY YEARS SINCE IT HAPPENED,
...IT COULDN'T BREATHE WHEN IT WAS BORN.

IN THE EARLY 1990S, CDH WASN'T EASILY DIAGNOSED.
ULTRASOUND EXAMS ONLY DISCOVERED CDH IN 40% OF CASES.
BUT I REMEMBER IT LIKE IT HAPPENED YESTERDAY.

...MISSED IT ON THE ULTRASOUND.
AND IT'S ALSO POSSIBLE THAT THE OB/GYN AT THEIR HOSPITAL...
...IF HER CLIENT HAD DECIDED TO GIVE BIRTH AT THE HOSPITAL.
BUT I THINK MY MOTHER BELIEVED THE BABY COULD'VE BEEN SAVED...
YEAH. THAT'S WHY THEY DIDN'T PROSECUTE THE HOSPITAL OR MY FAMILY'S BIRTH CENTER.
IT WASN'T OUR FAULT, MOM!
BIRTH CENTER PERMANENTLY
We are sorry to announce our permanent closing on XX/XX. Thank you for your years of patronage.
Matsuko Komatsu
YOU'RE CLOSING SHOP 'CAUSE 'A THIS?! COME ON!
THAT'S WHY...

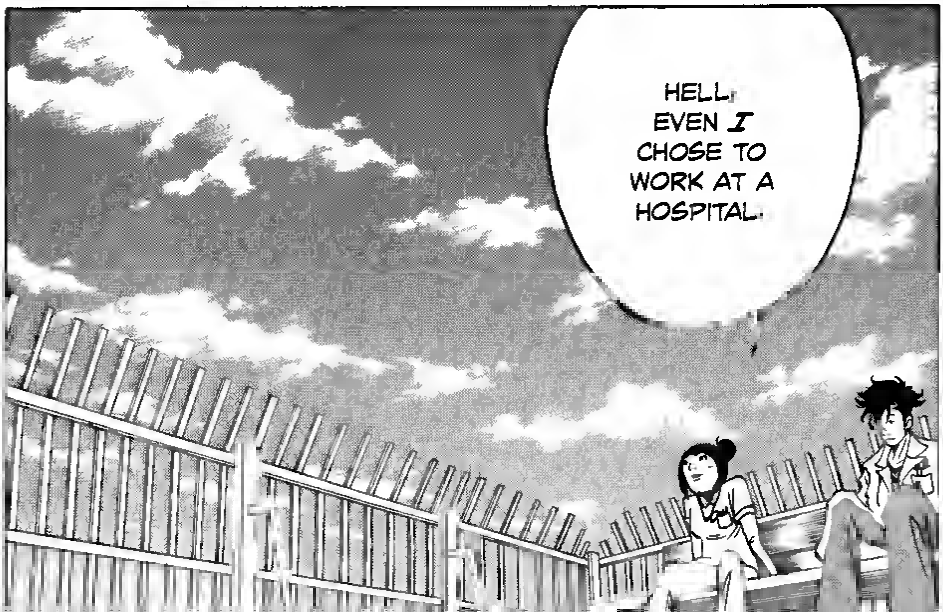
I DON'T CARE...
WHOSE FAULT IT WAS.
REGARDLESS OF WHETHER IT WAS OUR FAULT
OR THE HOSPITAL'S
Keiji Adachi
WHAT MATTERS IS WHAT HAPPENED
A LITTLE BABY DIED ON MY WATCH.
THE MIRACLE OF BIRTH IS TERRIFYING
SOMETIMES MOTHERS DIE
SOMETIMES THEIR BABIES CAN'T BE SAVED
BUT DESPITE ALL THAT WOMEN COME TO ME A MIDWIFE NOT THE HOSPITAL TO DELIVER THEIR CHILD

THAT'S WHY I CANT ALLOW MYSELF TO FAIL.
NOT EVEN ONCE.
THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION.
I THINK MY MOTHER UNDER-STOOD
.....
AND HOW TERRIFYING THE REPORTING ON TV AND IN THE NEWSPAPERS WOULD BE.
THE RESPONSIBILITY SHE HAD TO BEAR FOR THE DEATH OF AN INFANT...

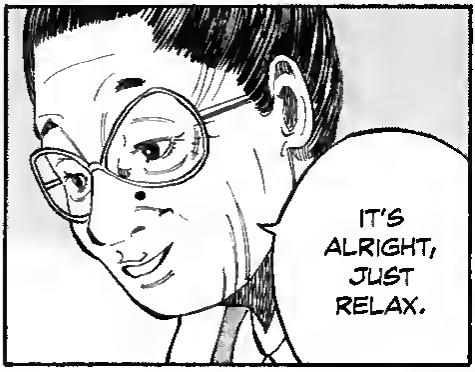
AND, THE YEAR I BECAME A MIDWIFE,
SHE STOPPED WORKNG AS A MIDWIFE ALTO GETHER.
BUT MY MOTHER STAUNCHLY REFUSED.
THE WOMAN WHO LOST HER CHILD BEGGED MY MOTHER TO CONTINUE HER BUSINESS,
...SO WHENEVER SOMEONE'S BADMOUTHING MIDWIVES OR BIRTH CENTERS,
SHE DIED FROM A SUBARACHNOID HEMORRHAGE.
I FEEL LIKE THEY'RE BADMOUTHING MY MOM IN SOME WAY.
I DON'T MEAN TO BADMOUTH ANYONE,
.....

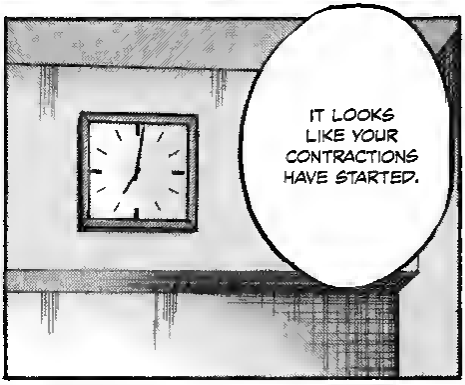
BUT I AGREE WITH SHINOMIYA.

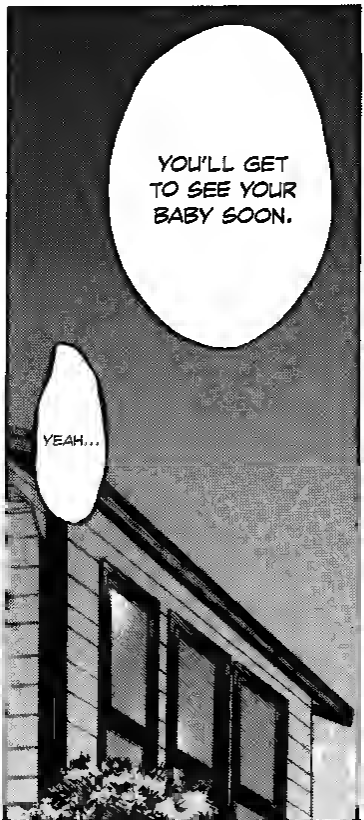
...I KNOW.

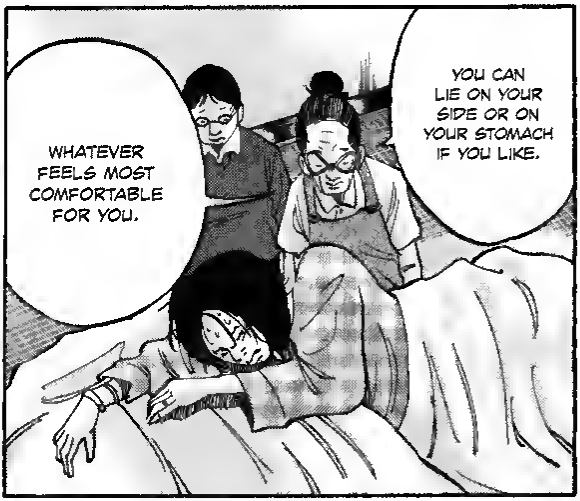

HELL, EVEN *I* CHOSE TO WORK AT A HOSPITAL.

GH!
MORI-SAN.
TEL

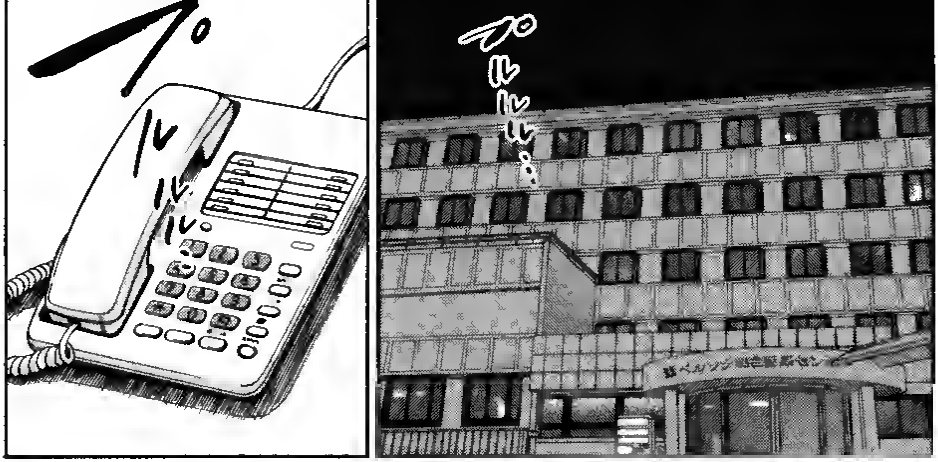

IT'S ALRIGHT, JUST RELAX.


IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR CONTRACTIONS HAVE STARTED.


YOU'LL GET TO SEE YOUR BABY SOON.
YEAH...


WHATEVER FEELS MOST COMFORTABLE FOR YOU.
YOU CAN LIE ON YOUR SIDE OR ON YOUR STOMACH IF YOU LIKE.

...RIGHT!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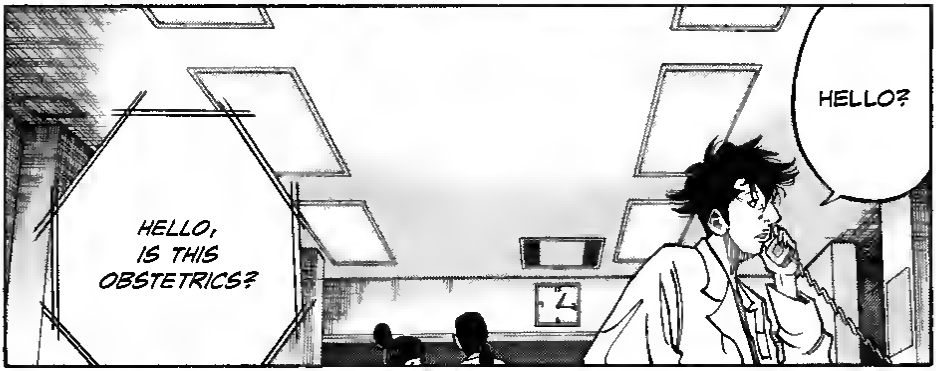
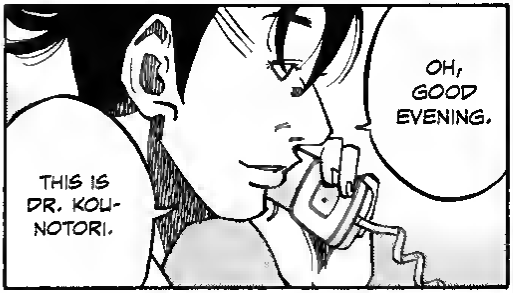
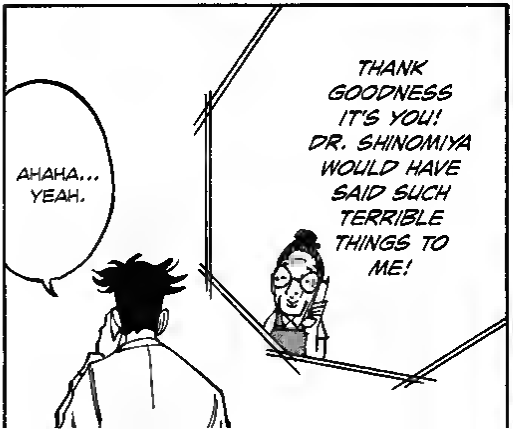
プルルルル


HELLO?
HELLO, IS THIS OBSTETRICS?


OH, GOOD EVENING.
THIS IS DR. KOU-NOTORI.

THIS IS NONOMURA FROM THE NONOMURA BIRTH CENTER.


THANK GOODNESS IT'S YOU! DR. SHINOMIYA WOULD HAVE SAID SUCH TERRIBLE THINGS TO ME!
AHAHA... YEAH.

I HAVE A FIRST-TIME MOTHER HERE GIVING BIRTH.
SHE'S 40 WEEKS AND FIVE DAYS PREGNANT, AND HER BABY IS IN THE POSTERIOR POSITION.
.....
HER CERVIX IS AT 7CM, WITH NO CHANGES FOR THE LAST SIX HOURS.

COULD YOU PLEASE END AN AMBULANCE TO TAKE HER TO THE HOSPITAL?

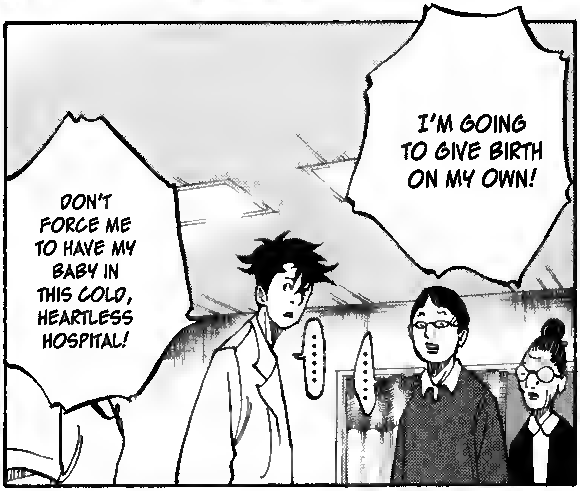
FROM WHAT I KNOW AND WHAT WE'VE SEEN,
分娩室
ピーポー
ピーポー

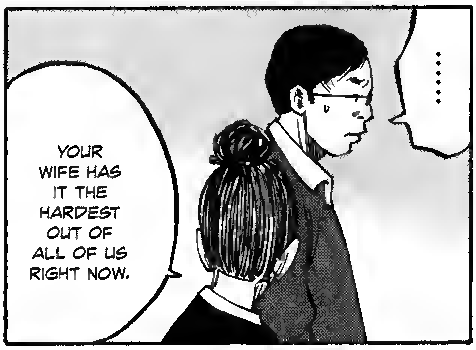
WHEN A BABY IS BORN,
IT ROTATES ITSELF INTO POSITION.
THE DELIVERY PROCESS HAS COME TO A STOP.
IN A TYPICAL BIRTH,
A BABY WILL DESCEND THROUGH THE BIRTH CANAL FACING THE MOTHER'S BACK.
BUT RIGHT NOW, YOUR BABY IS FACING HER STOMACH.
WE CALL THIS THE "OCCIPUT POSTERIOR POSITION."
LABOR-INDUCING DRUGS CAN SOMETIMES CORRECT FETAL POSITIONING...
...BY STRENGTHENING CONTRACTIONS,
CAN YOU FIX THE BABY'S POSITION?
THIS IS WHY THE BABY HASN'T COME ANY FURTHER.

IF YOU LOOK AT THE FETAL HEART MONITOR,
YOU CAN SEE THAT YOUR BABY IS GETTING WEAKER.
BUT SOMETIMES, IT DOESN'T WORK, AND THE BABY IS DELIVERED WHILE STILL IN THE POSTERIOR POSITION.
……
HOW-EVER,
EACH CONTRACTION CAUSES ITS HEART RATE TO DROP A LITTLE MORE.
AND HER INCREASED HEART RATE COULD LEAD TO INTRAUTERINE INFECTION
THE BEST WAY TO AVOID THESE RISKS...
WOULD BE TO PERFORM A C-SECTION.

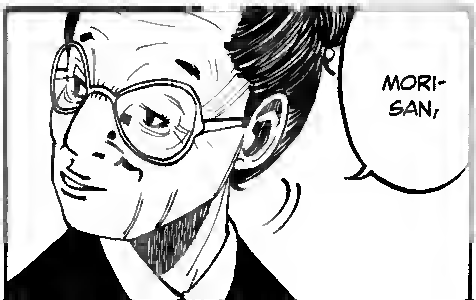
NO!
I DON'T WANT A C-SECTION!

HEY...
COLD AND HEART-LESS?

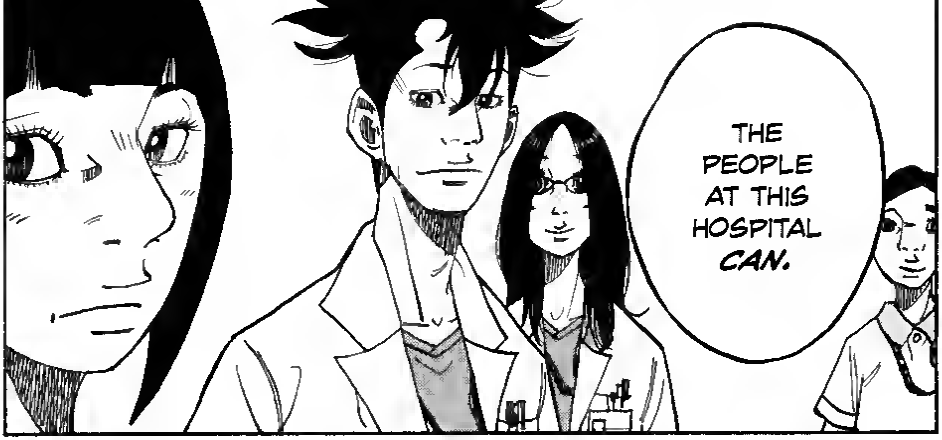

I'M GOING TO GIVE BIRTH ON MY OWN!
DON'T FORCE ME TO HAVE MY BABY IN THIS COLD, HEARTLESS HOSPITAL!

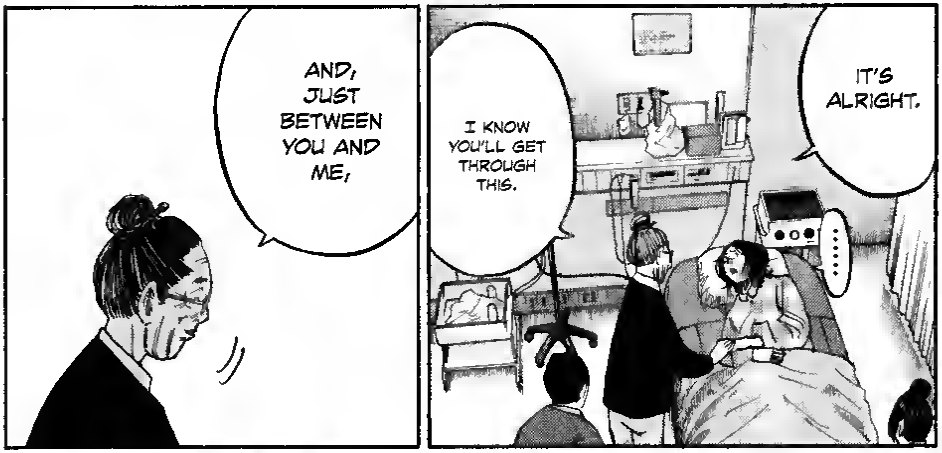

.....
YOUR WIFE HAS IT THE HARDEST OUT OF ALL OF US RIGHT NOW.

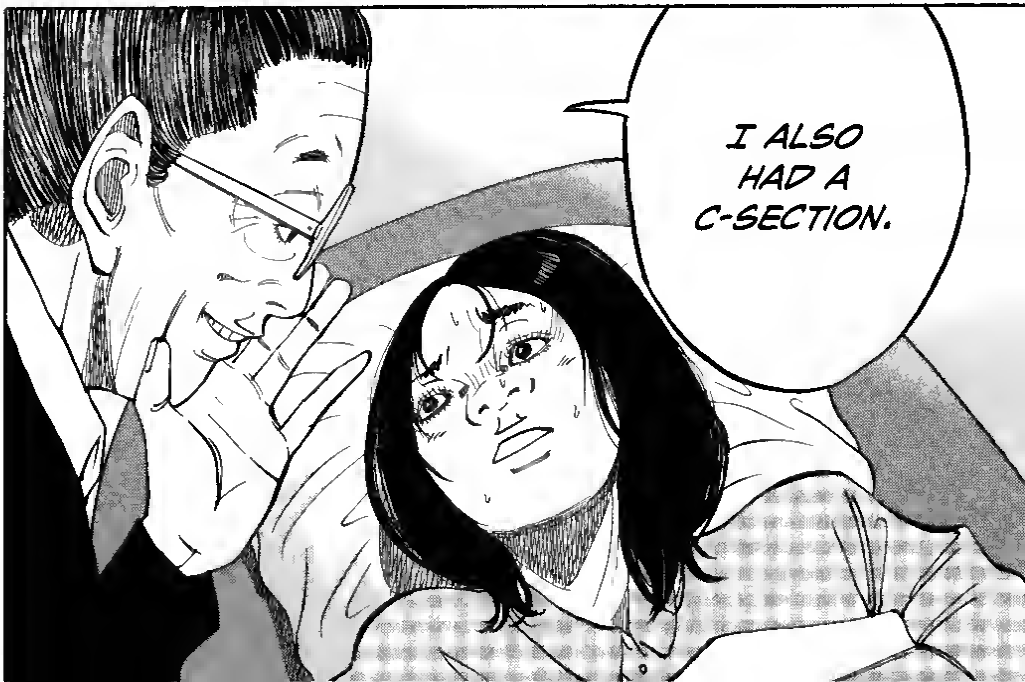
GIVE IN ALREADY!
NOW, NOW, SIR, THERE'S NO NEED TO YELL.

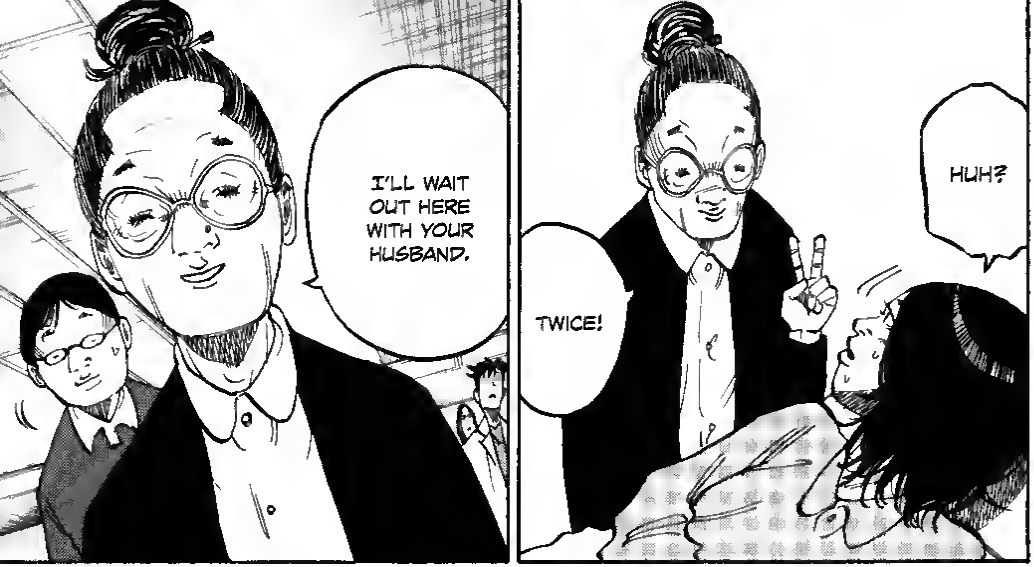

MORI-SAN,

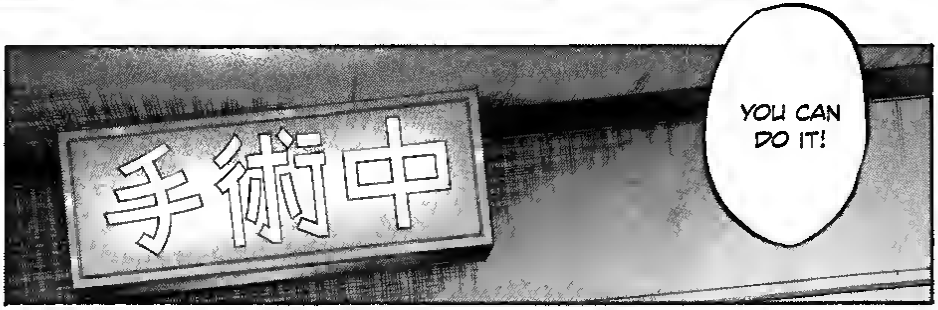
BUT TELL ME, FOR WHOM WERE YOU TRYING SO HARD?
WAS IT FOR YOUR BABY?
YOUR HUSBAND AND I HAVE BEEN WITH YOU FOR YOUR WHOLE PREGNANCY.
WE KNOW JUST HOW HARD YOU'VE WORKED TO GET HERE.
.....
OR FOR YOURSELF?
BUT IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAT YOUR BABY BE BORN HAPPY AND HEALTHY.
AND WHILE I CAN'T HELP WITH THAT,
I WANTED YOU TO HAVE THE PERFECT LABOR AND DELIVERY, TOO.


THE PEOPLE AT THIS HOSPITAL CAN.


AND, JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME,
I KNOW YOU'LL GET THROUGH THIS.
IT'S ALRIGHT.

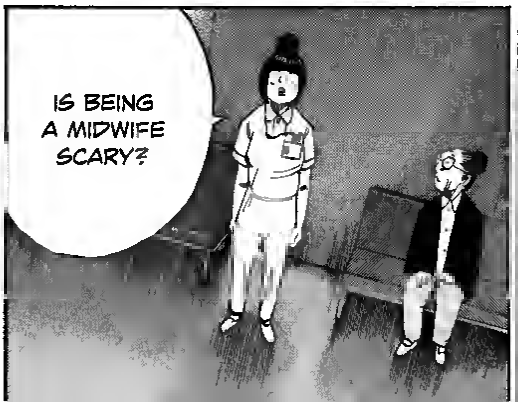

I ALSO HAD A C-SECTION.

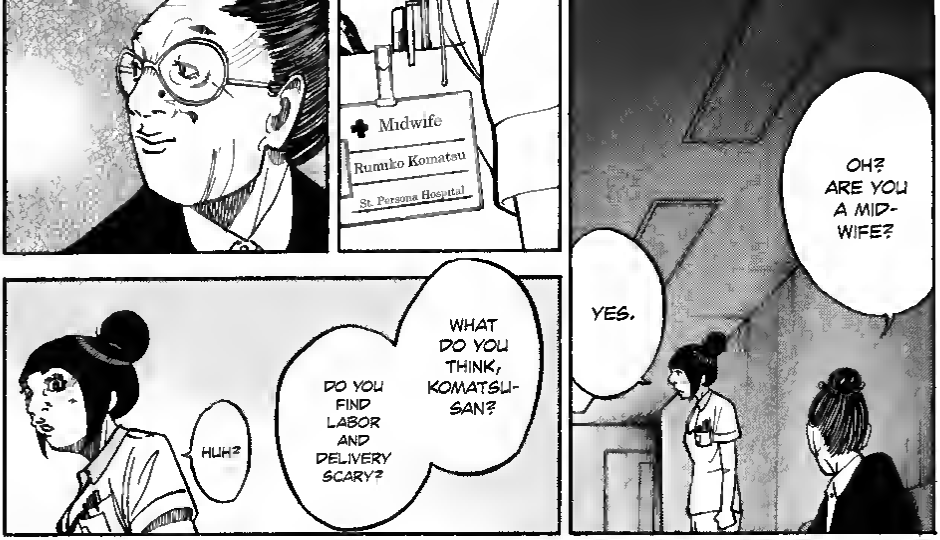

I'LL WAIT OUT HERE WITH YOUR HUSBAND.
HUH?
TWICE!


手術中
YOU CAN DO IT!

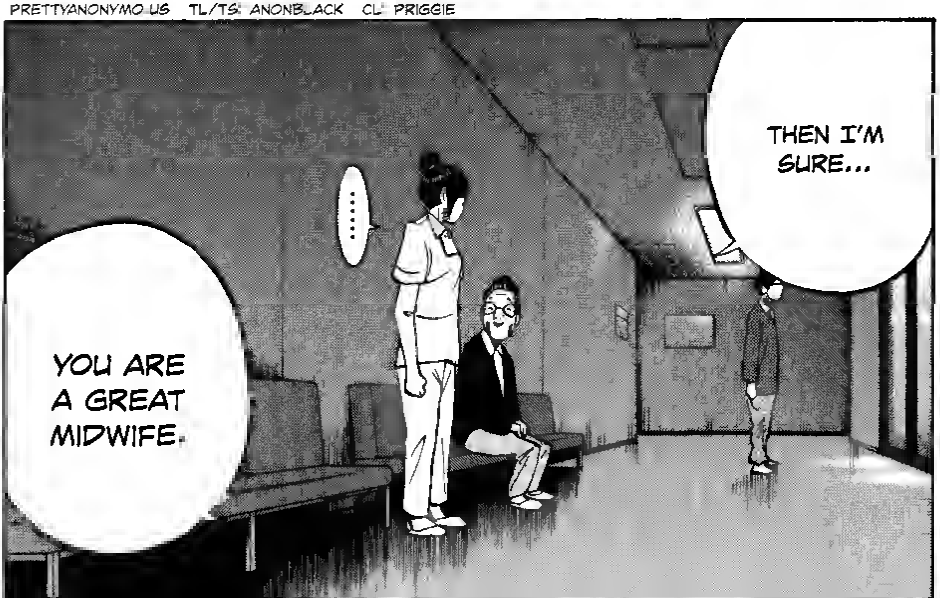
MS. NONO-MURA?

……


IS BEING A MIDWIFE SCARY?



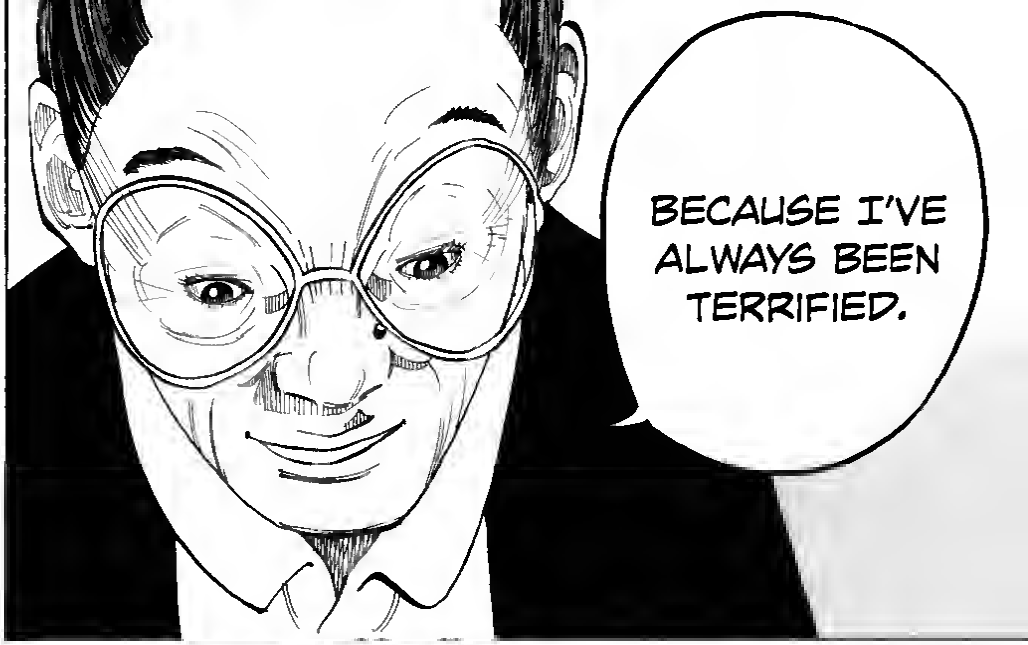
PRETTYANONYMO.US TL/TS: ANONBLACK CL: PRIGGIE

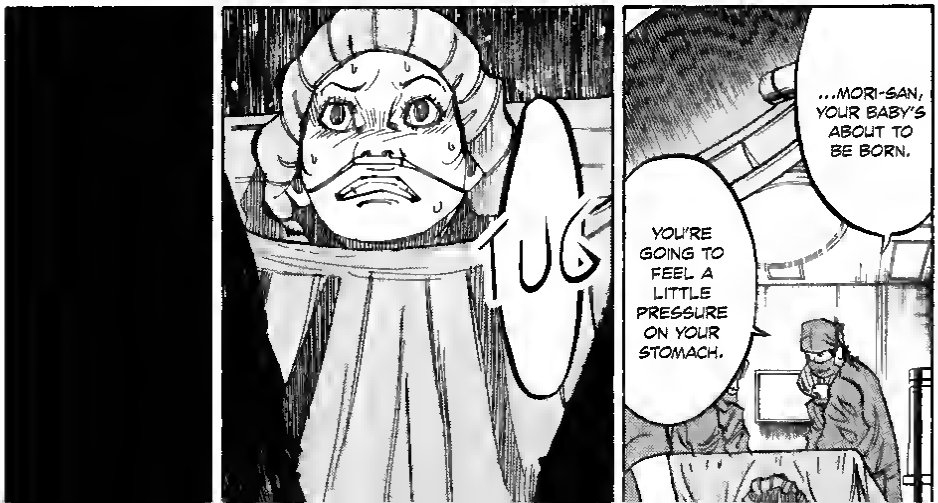


...WAS TO GIVE BIRTH TO MY CHILD.
手術中
ALL I WANTED...
YOU SEE THAT?
.....
I WATCHED MY MOTHER GIVE BIRTH TO MY LITTLE BROTHER AT A BIRTH CENTER, AND THAT'S WHEN MY FATHER SAID TO ME...
THAT'S HOW YOU WERE BORN, TOO.
.....
THAT'S WHEN I KNEW THAT I'D HAVE MY BABY IN THE EXACT SAME WAY.
...-SAN.
MORI-SAN.
.....
...BUT NOW...

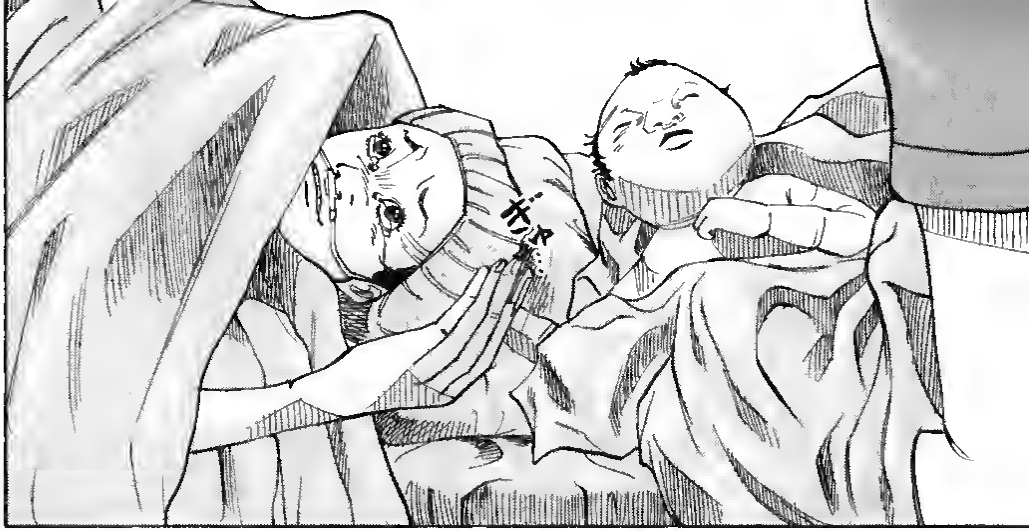
YOUR BABY'S ABOUT TO BE BORN.
!?

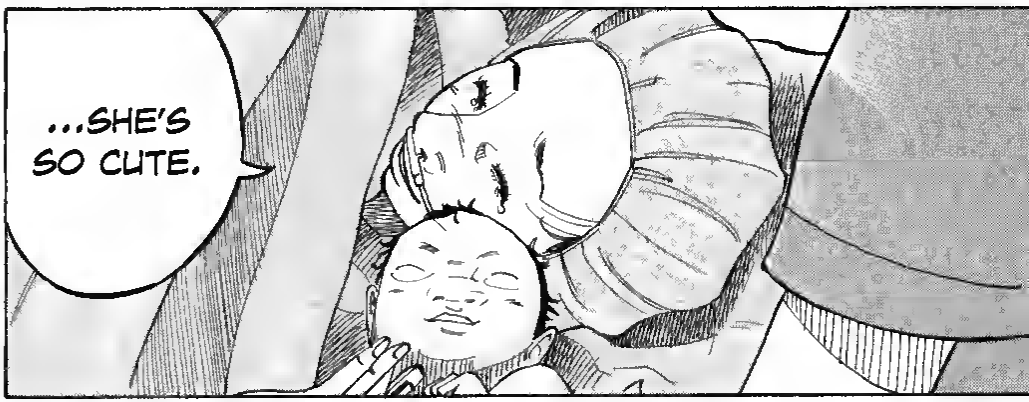
I'M JUST A COWARD.
...I'M NOT A GREAT MIDWIFE.
AND NOT A BIRTH CENTER.
THAT'S WHY I'M WORKING AT A HOSPITAL.
.....
I'VE BEEN RUNNING MY BIRTH CENTER FOR OVER 40 YEARS AND NEVER HAD ANY TERRIBLE ACCIDENTS.
DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY?
KOMATSU-SAN,
I'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF MYSELF AS A "GOOD MIDWIFE".


BECAUSE I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TERRIFIED.

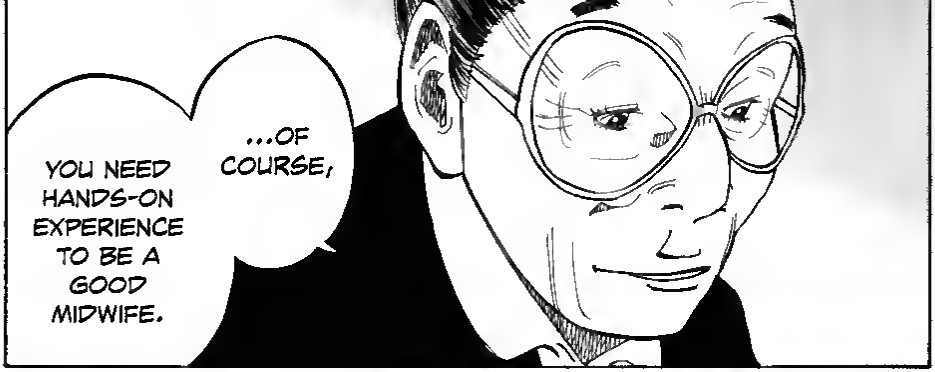

TUG
...MORI-SAN, YOUR BABY'S ABOUT TO BE BORN.
YOU'RE GOING TO FEEL A LITTLE PRESSURE ON YOUR STOMACH.

WAHH!
WAHHH!
WAHH!
WAHH!
WAHH!
WAHH!
WAHH!
.....
IT'S A GIRL.
.....
CONGRA-TULATIONS.

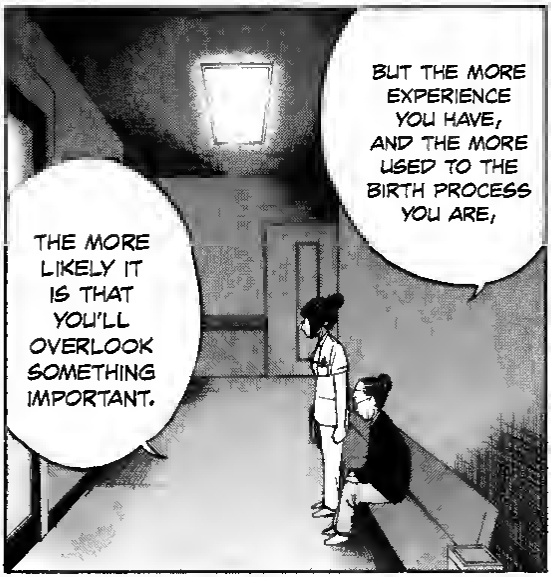



...SHE'S SO CUTE.

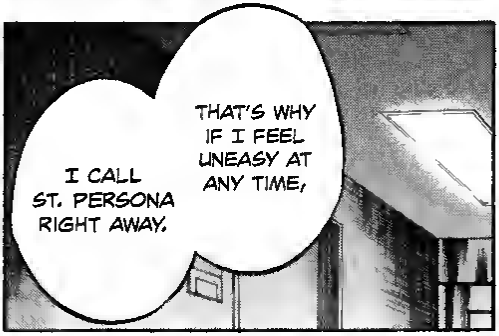
MORI-SAN.
CONGRA-TULATIONS,


YOU NEED HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE TO BE A GOOD MIDWIFE.
...OF COURSE,

AFTER ALL, EACH PREGNANCY AND DELIVERY IS DIFFERENT.
.....

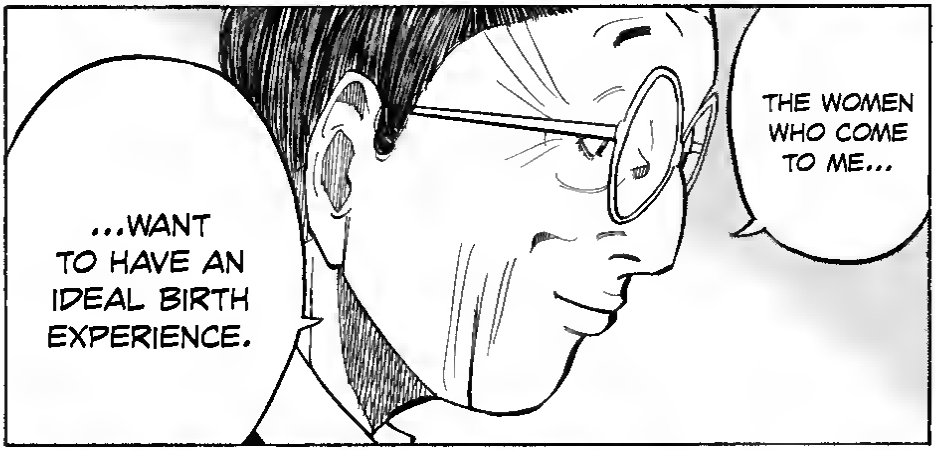

BUT THE MORE EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE, AND THE MORE USED TO THE BIRTH PROCESS YOU ARE,
THE MORE LIKELY IT IS THAT YOU'LL OVERLOOK SOMETHING IMPORTANT.

BUT IF THE MOTHER AND BABY ARE ALRIGHT,


THAT'S WHY IF I FEEL UNEASY AT ANY TIME,
I CALL ST. PERSONA RIGHT AWAY.

He always says "Not that damn midwife again."
EVEN THOUGH DR. SHINOMIYA ALWAYS GLARES AT ME.

THEN I'M ALRIGHT WITH THAT.


THE WOMEN WHO COME TO ME...
...WANT TO HAVE AN IDEAL BIRTH EXPERIENCE.

THAT'S WHY...
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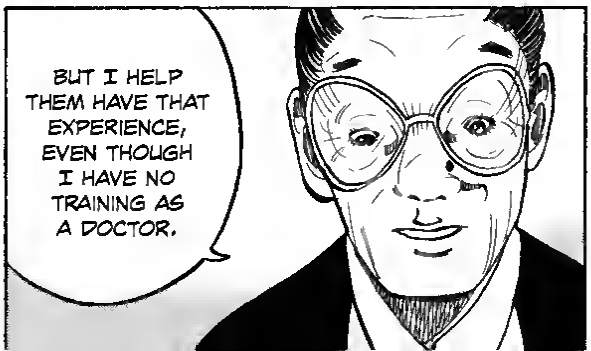
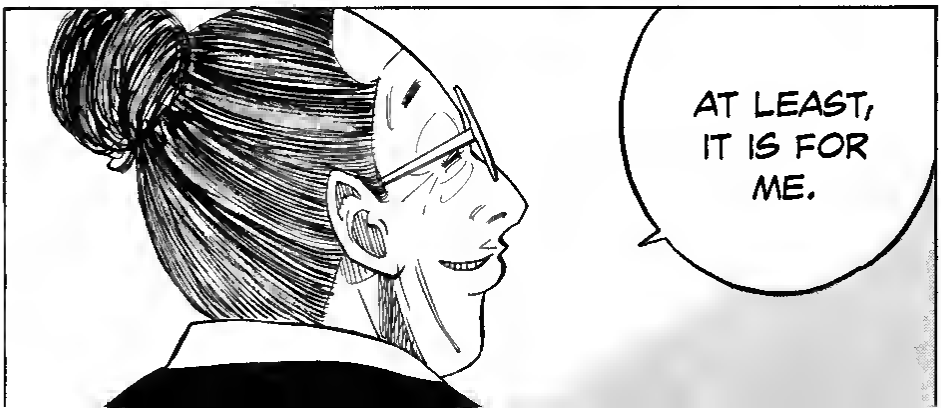
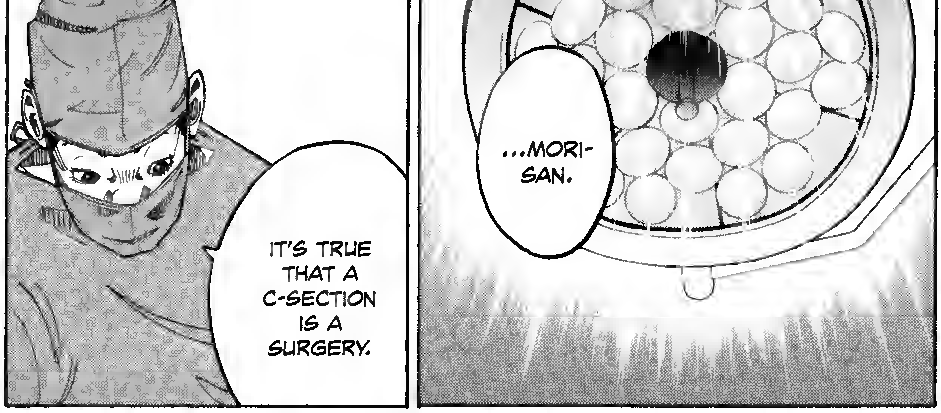
A BIRTH EXPERIENCE THAT MIGHT BE DANGEROUS.
.....


BUT I HELP THEM HAVE THAT EXPERIENCE, EVEN THOUGH I HAVE NO TRAINING AS A DOCTOR.

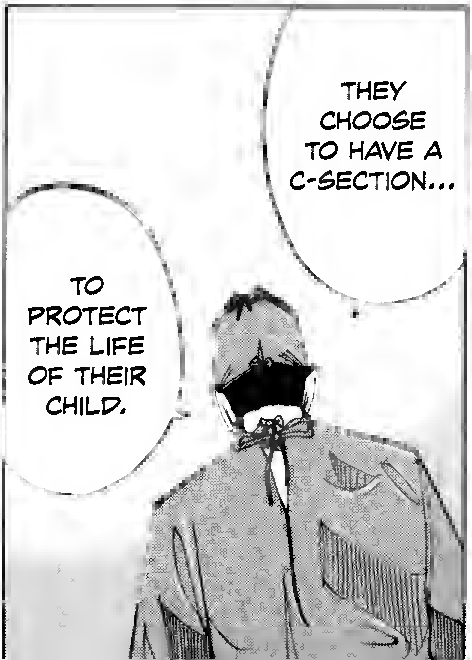
WE CAN'T ALLOW OURSELVES TO FAIL, NOT EVEN ONCE, RIGHT?
BUT IT'S A GOOD THING.
I THINK LABOR AND DELIVERY ARE SCARY.
KO-MATSU-SAN.
.....

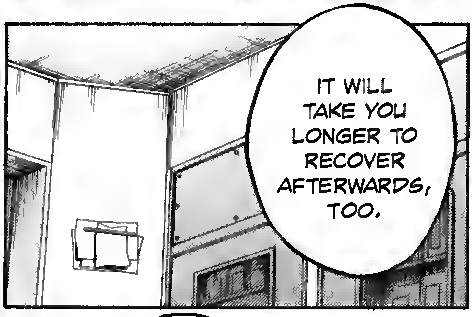
THAT FEAR...
.....
...IS A MIDWIFE'S GREATEST WEAPON.

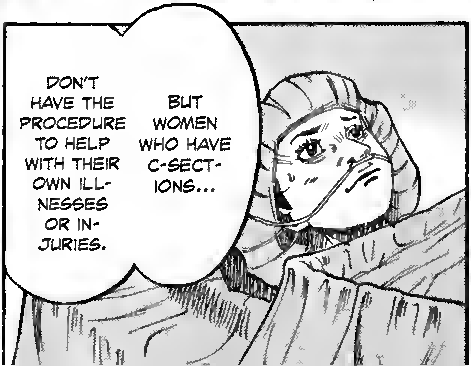

AT LEAST, IT IS FOR ME.


IT'S TRUE THAT A C-SECTION IS A SURGERY.
...MORI-SAN.

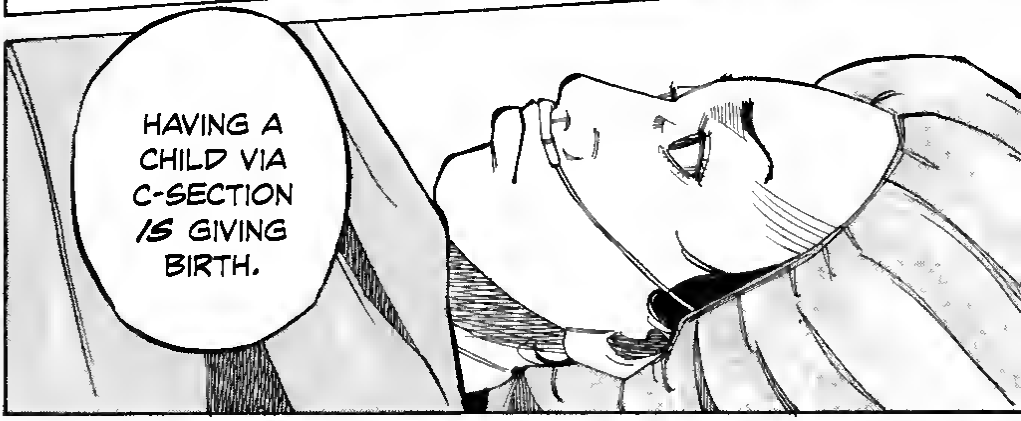
IT'S INDEED A SURGICAL PROCEDURE.
THEN WE SEW EVERY-THING BACK UP.
TO PULL OUT THE BABY AND PLACENTA,
WE CUT OPEN YOUR STOMACH AND UTERUS

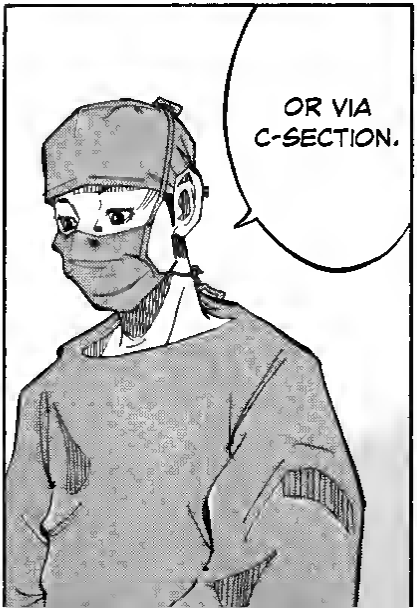

TO PROTECT THE LIFE OF THEIR CHILD.
THEY CHOOSE TO HAVE A C-SECTION...


IT WILL TAKE YOU LONGER TO RECOVER AFTERWARDS, TOO.


DON'T HAVE THE PROCEDURE TO HELP WITH THEIR OWN ILL-NESSES OR IN-JURIES.
BUT WOMEN WHO HAVE C-SECT-IONS...

WE DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY IT'S NOT A "REAL" BIRTH.


HAVING A CHILD VIA C-SECTION *IS* GIVING BIRTH.

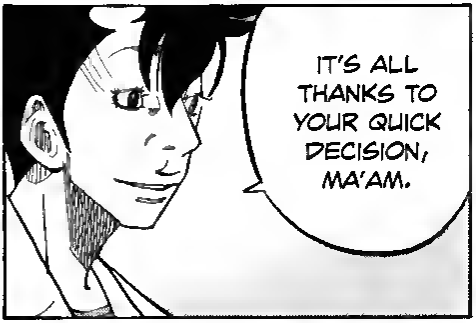

OR VIA C-SECTION.

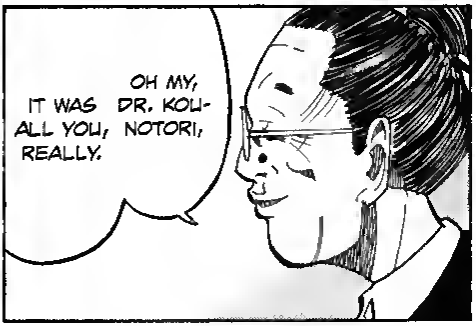
THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE AT ALL...
BETWEEN GIVING BIRTH "NATURALLY"

EVERY WOMAN HAS THE SAME SMILE ON HER FACE
WHEN SHE GETS TO SEE HER HEALTHY BABY FOR THE FIRST TIME.
YOU HAD THE SAME SMILE TOO, MORI-SAN.
.....
AND THAT'S WHAT GIVING BIRTH...
...IS ALL ABOUT.

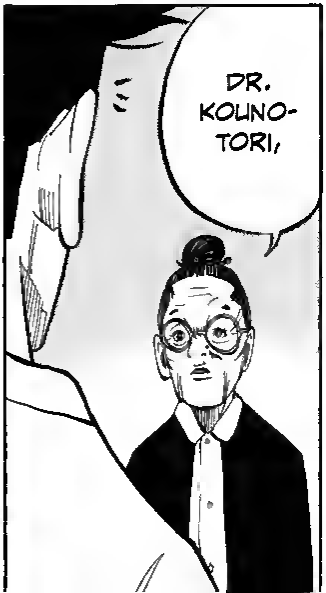
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
THANKS TO YOU ALL, MORI-SAN WAS ABLE TO SAFELY DELIVER A HEALTHY CHILD.

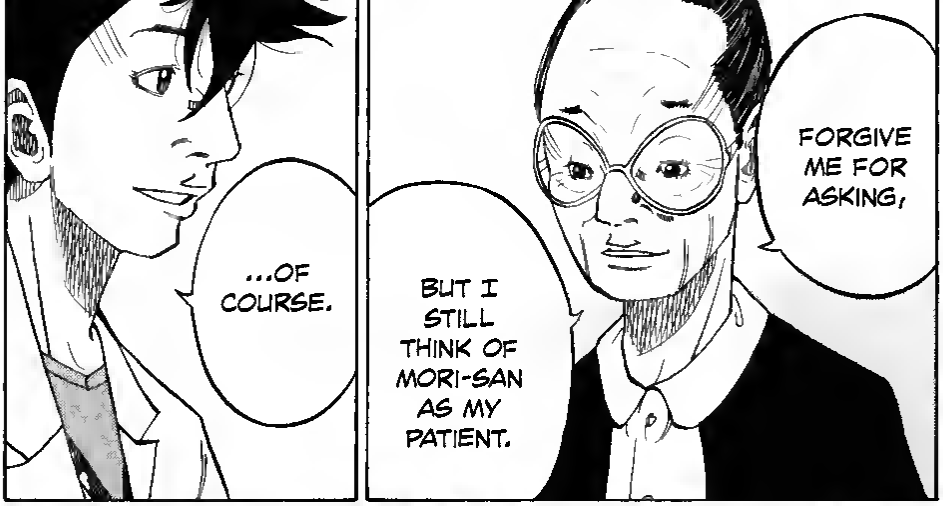
ALL I DO IS ASK YOU TO TAKE ANOTHER WOMAN OFF MY HANDS.
AHAHA, WELL, THAT IS TRUE.


IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOUR QUICK DECISION, MA'AM.

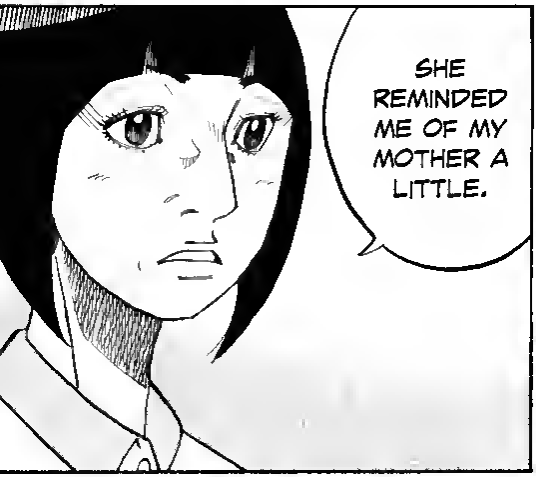

OH MY, DR. KOU-NOTORI, IT WAS ALL YOU, REALLY.

WOULD IT BE ALRIGHT IF I CONDUCTED MORI-SAN'S POST-DELIVERY EXAMINATION
AFTER SHE'S DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL?

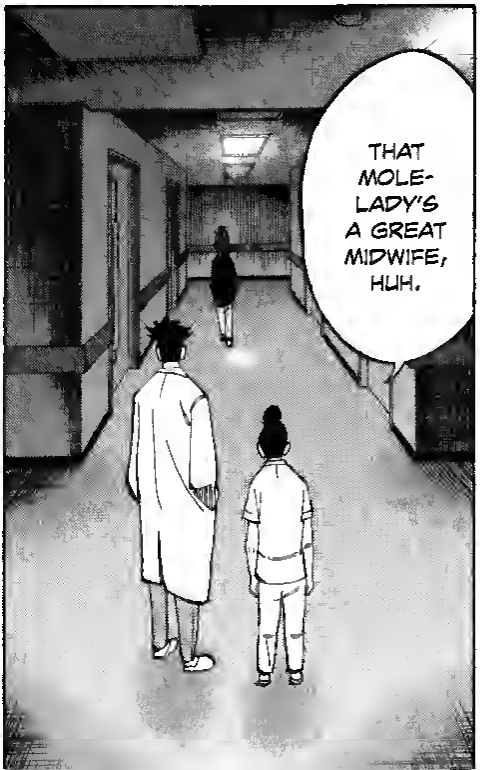

DR. KOUNO-TORI,


FORGIVE ME FOR ASKING,
BUT I STILL THINK OF MORI-SAN AS MY PATIENT.
...OF COURSE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

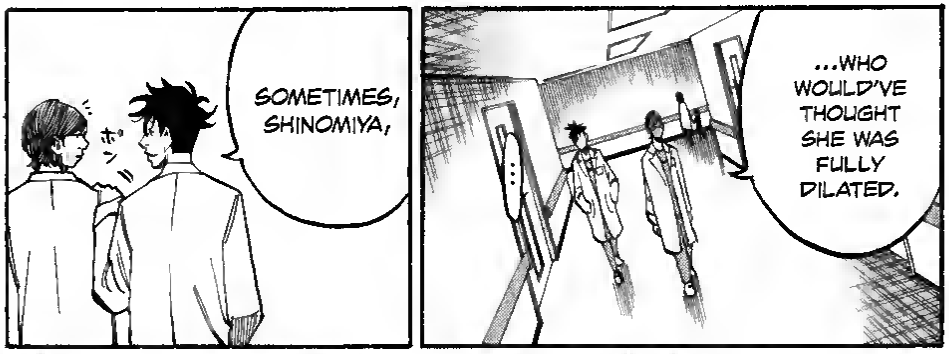

SHE REMINDED ME OF MY MOTHER A LITTLE.

.....

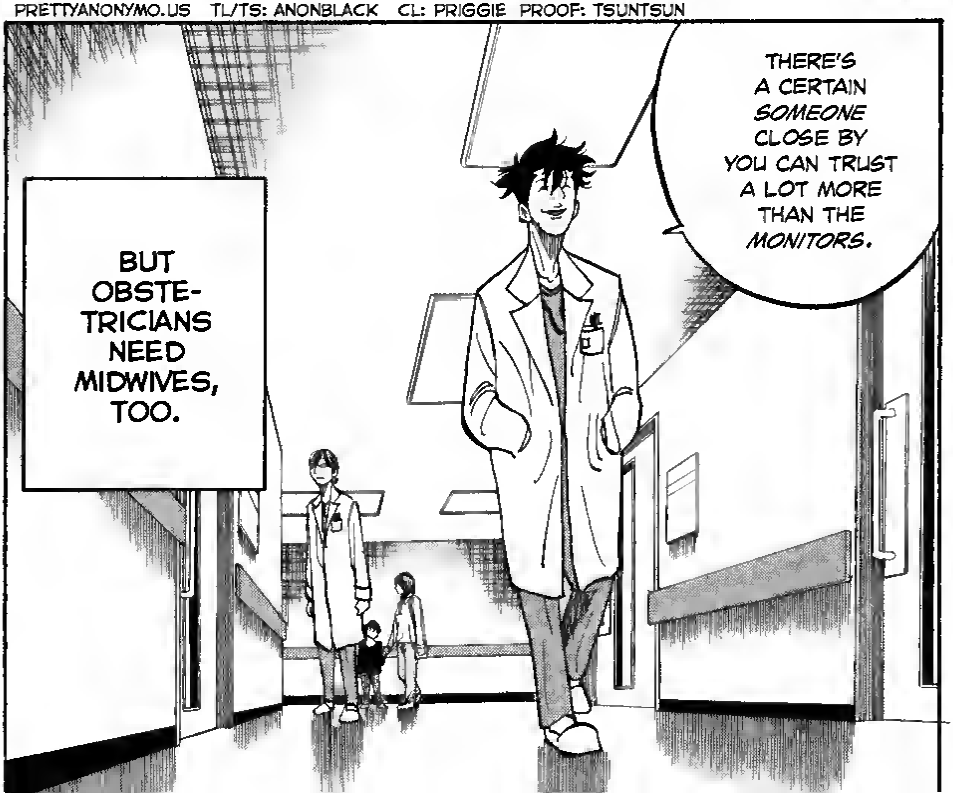

THAT MOLE-LADY'S A GREAT MIDWIFE, HUH.

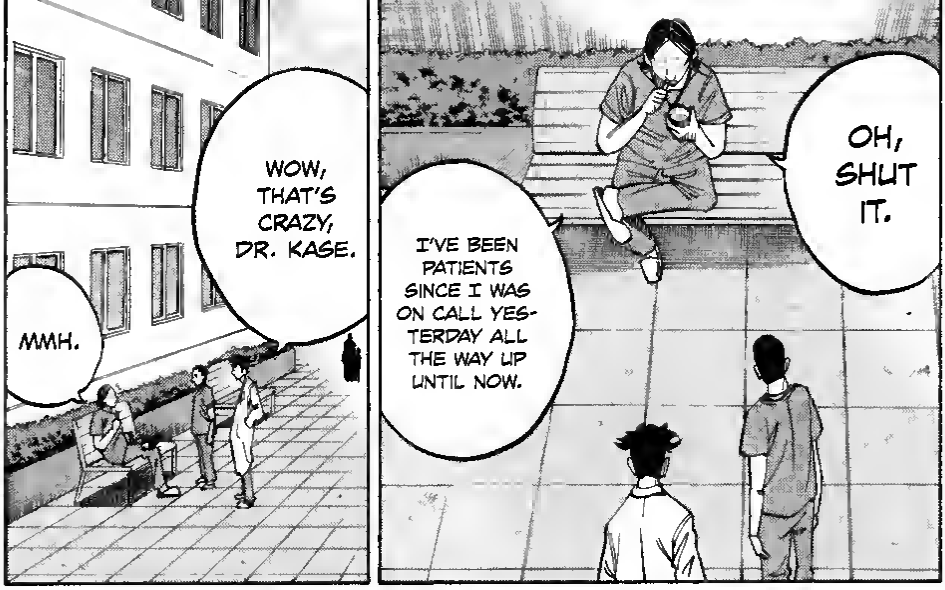
SO WE NEED TO COOPERATE BETTER.
AS LONG AS THERE ARE WOMEN WHO WANT TO GIVE BIRTH AT A BIRTH CENTER,
WE'LL BE WORKING TOGETHER,
THOUGH PERSONALLY,
I THINK THE HOSPITAL IS A BETTER CHOICE, SINCE THERE ARE DOCTORS ON HAND THAT CAN PERFORM A C-SECTION IMMEDIATELY, IF NEEDED.
...I THINK SO, TOO.
.....
AND YOUR CERVIX WAS ONLY AT 4CM LAST TIME WE CHECKED.
THE FETAL HEART RATE HAS DROPPED,
...YOU'RE GOING TO NEED A C-SECTION.

SHE'S FEELING THE URGE TO PUSH,
SO I THINK SHE'S COMING ALONG WELL.
ALRIGHT, LET'S TAKE ANOTHER LOOK.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, KOMATSU-SAN?
HUH?
分娩室
OH! YOU'RE RIGHT, SHE'S ALMOST FULLY DILATED.
THIS IS REALLY GOOD.
BUT I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE BABY'S HEART RATE,
SO LET'S KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON THE MONITORS.
HMPH.
ALRIGHT, KOMATSU-SAN,
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HOLD OUT A LITTLE LONGER?
...YES.
CALL US IF ANYTHING HAPPENS.
.....

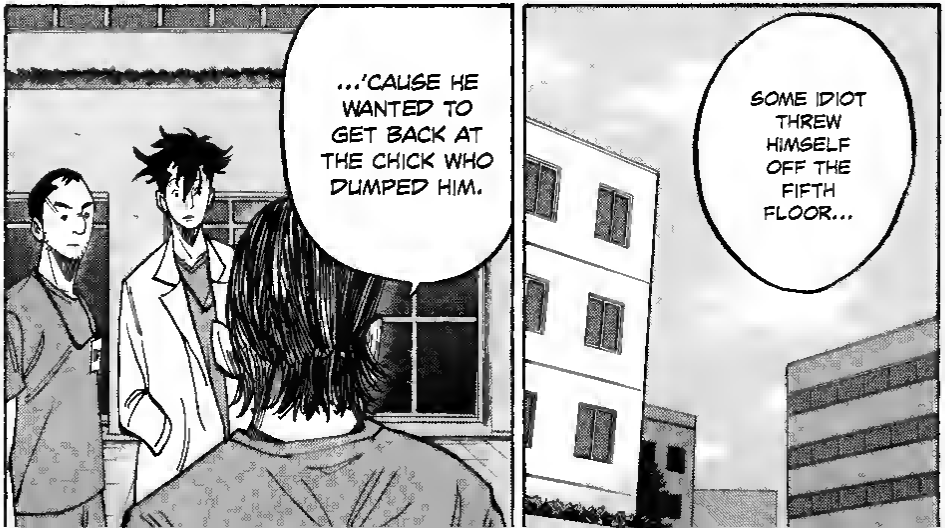


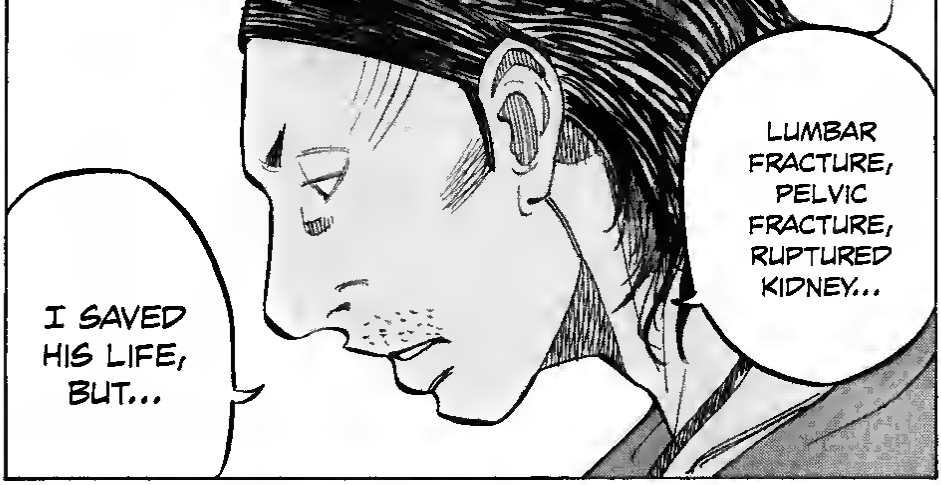
PRETTYANONYMO.US TL/TS: ANONBLACK CL: PRIGGIE PROOF: TSUNTSUN

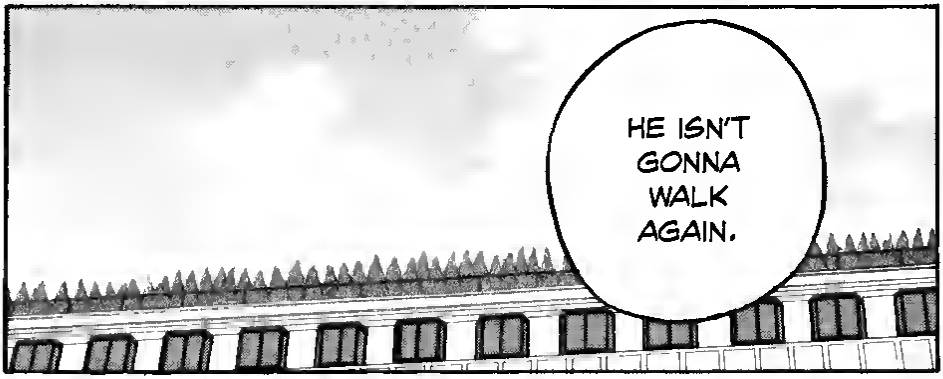



WOW, THAT'S CRAZY, DR. KASE.
MMH.
I'VE BEEN PATIENTS SINCE I WAS ON CALL YESTERDAY ALL THE WAY UP UNTIL NOW.
OH, SHUT IT.

YESTERDAY WAS A LONG DAY.

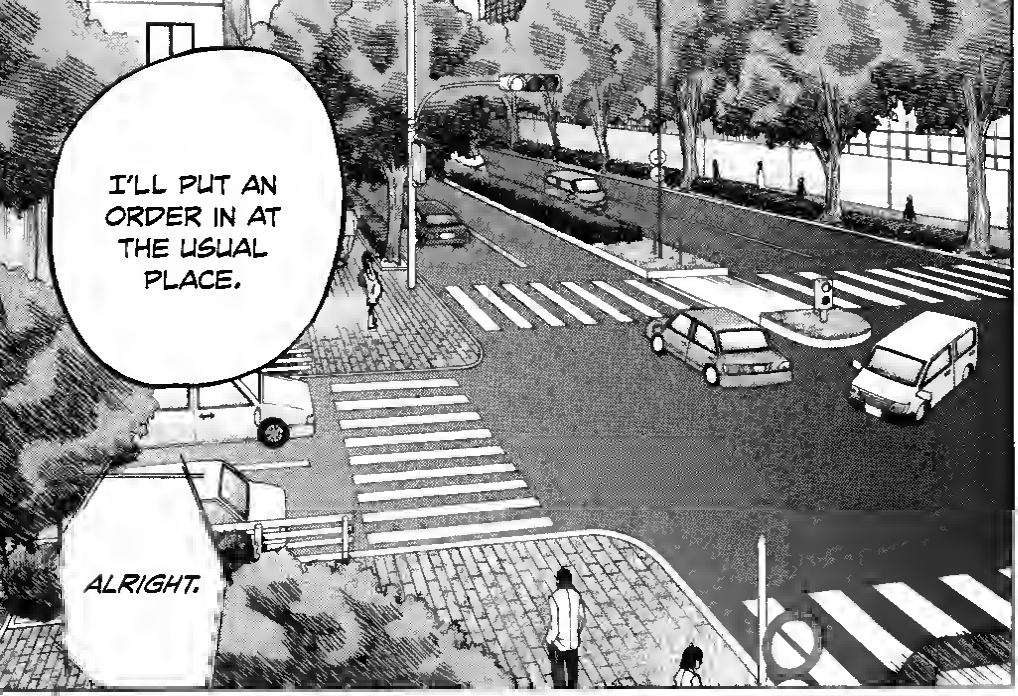

...'CAUSE HE WANTED TO GET BACK AT THE CHICK WHO DUMPED HIM.
SOME IDIOT THREW HIMSELF OFF THE FIFTH FLOOR...

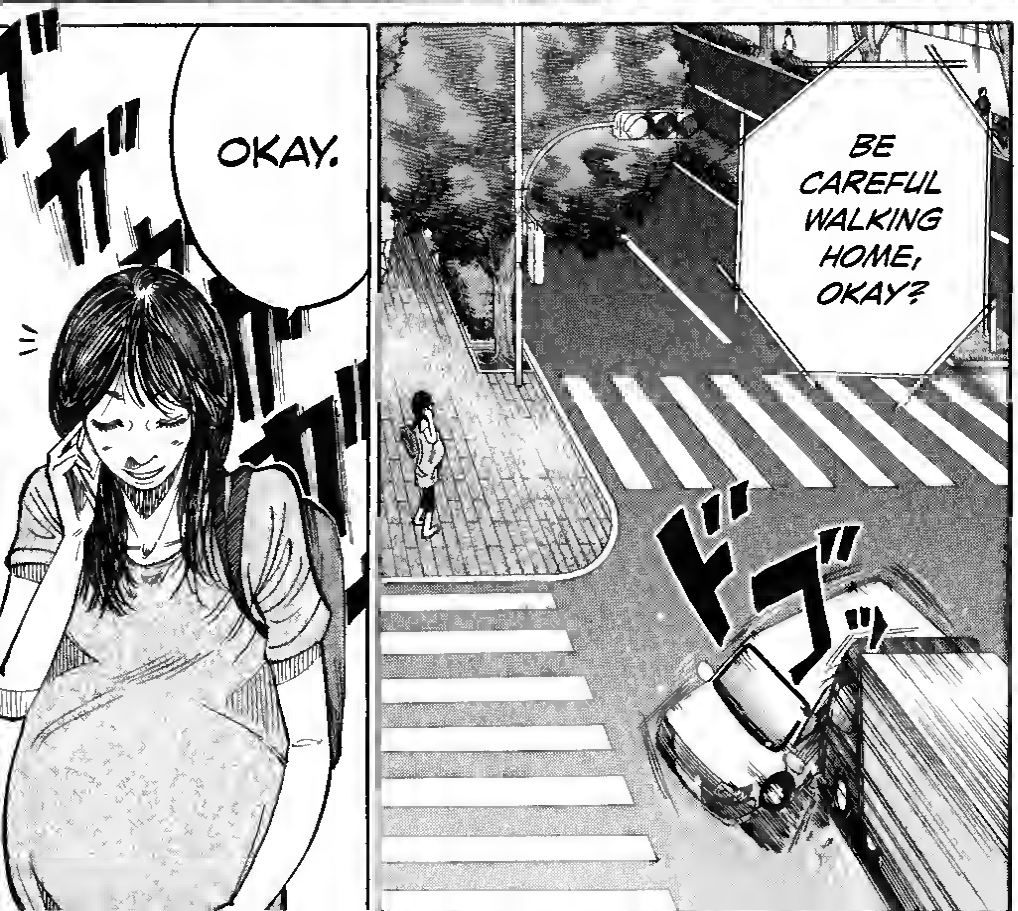

LUMBAR FRACTURE, PELVIC FRACTURE, RUPTURED KIDNEY...
I SAVED HIS LIFE, BUT...


HE ISN'T GONNA WALK AGAIN.

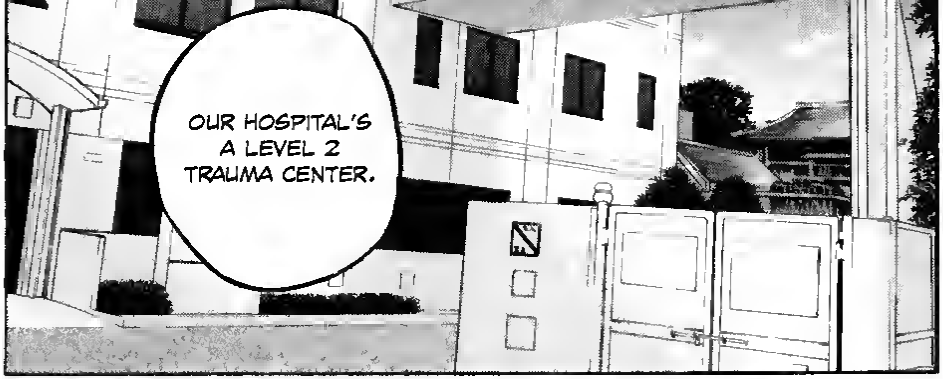
YOU GONNA BE LATE COMING HOME TONIGHT?
I'LL BE HOME EARLY!
HELLO? HIRO-KUN?

OKAY! ANYTHING YOU WANT FOR DINNER TONIGHT?
SOME-THING EASY'S FINE.
YOU'RE CLOSE TO YOUR DUE DATE,
SO I'M COMING HOME EARLY, NO MATTER WHAT THE BOSS MIGHT SAY.
I HEARD IF I EAT SUSHI, THE BABY COMES OUT SMARTER!
THEN HOW ABOUT WE GO FOR SUSHI?
YOU JUST WANNA EAT SUSHI.
You little liar!
AW, REALLY?
YAY!
ALRIGHT. LET'S HAVE SUSHI, THEN.
OH, COME ON! YOU LIKE SUSHI, TOO!


I'LL PUT AN ORDER IN AT THE USUAL PLACE.
ALRIGHT.


OKAY.
BE CAREFUL WALKING HOME, OKAY?
ドゴ"

I WILL.

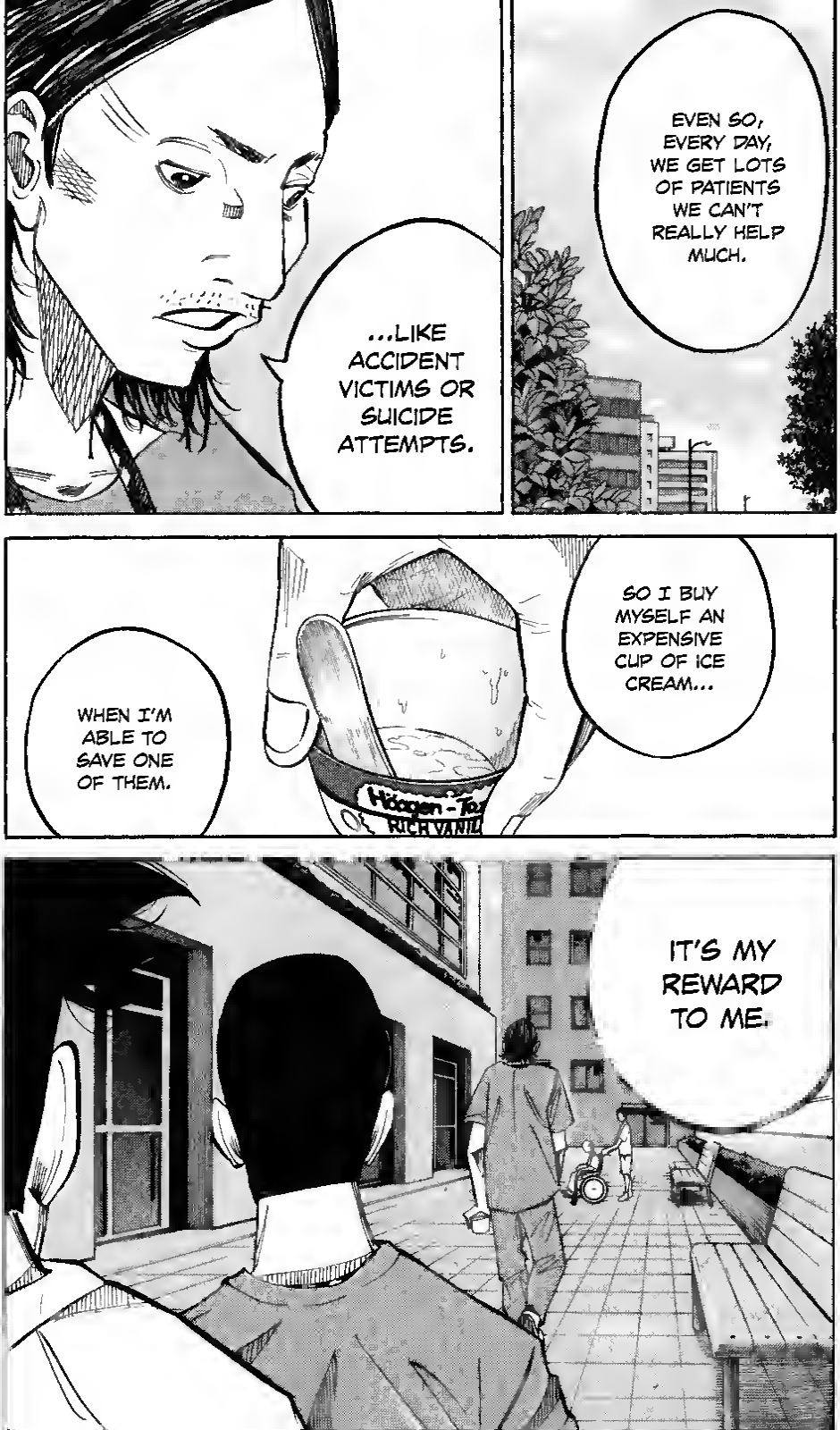

OUR HOSPITAL'S A LEVEL 2 TRAUMA CENTER.

WE CAN HANDLE STROKES, HEART ATTACKS,
SEVERE BURNS, MULTIPLE INJURIES,
AND ACUTE POISON-ING, TOO.

US EMERGENCY DOCS JUST FOCUS ON SAVING THEIR LIVES.

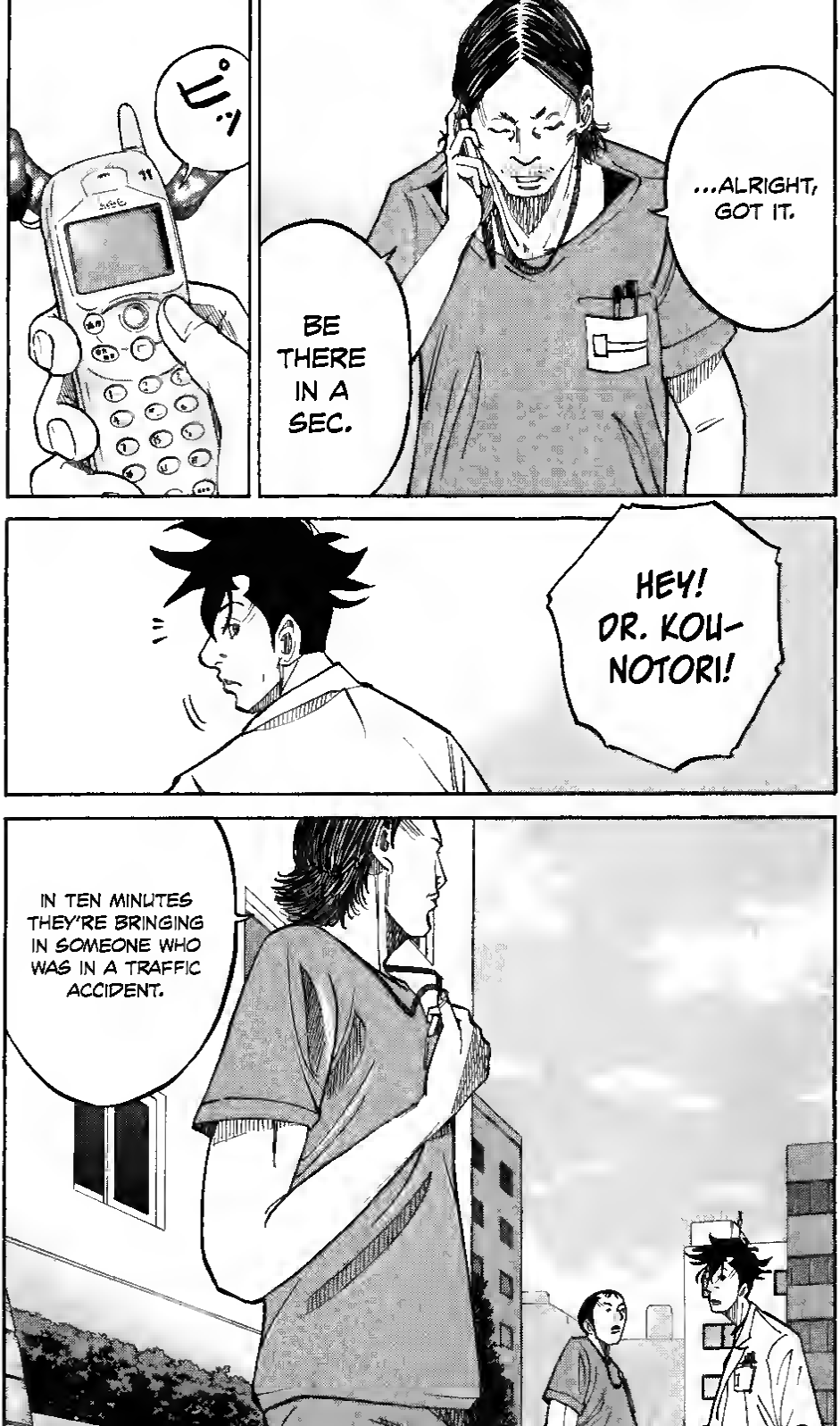
TWENTY-FOUR HOUR A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK,
THEY HAUL SERIOUSLY INJURED PATIENTS INTO OUR BEDS.

ONCE THAT'S DONE, WE CAN WORRY ABOUT EVERY-THING ELSE.


...LIKE ACCIDENT VICTIMS OR SUICIDE ATTEMPTS.
EVEN SO, EVERY DAY, WE GET LOTS OF PATIENTS WE CAN'T REALLY HELP MUCH.
WHEN I'M ABLE TO SAVE ONE OF THEM.
SO I BUY MYSELF AN EXPENSIVE CUP OF ICE CREAM...
Häagen-Dazs
RICH VANILLA
IT'S MY REWARD TO ME.

YEAH, KASE HERE. UH-HUH.
RING RING RING
UH-HUH. YEAH. CAR ACCIDENT.
UH-HUH.
AND WHAT?

ピーポー
ピーポー


プッ
BE THERE IN A SEC.
...ALRIGHT, GOT IT.
HEY! DR. KOU-NOTORI!
IN TEN MINUTES THEY'RE BRINGING IN SOMEONE WHO WAS IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT.

AND SHE'S PREGNANT.

COULD YA COME WITH?

I lay down and
play the ukelele.

This is how it is when I'm
working on the rough draft

Thank you for reading
Volume 3 of Kounotori!
I always have so much to be
grateful for.

Thanks my wife and son, my sadistic editor K,
my staff Min-chan, Kento-chan, HiroP, N.Sho-kun
and Oshin-kun and SMizu who comes by sometimes.
And all of you readers!!

Futari wa Pretty Anon
prettyanonymous #prettyanon@irc.rizon.net
TL/TS: AnonBlack
CL: Priggle

2/16/16
Now recruiting Cleaner for Kounotori!
Email translatoranon@gmail.com for deets

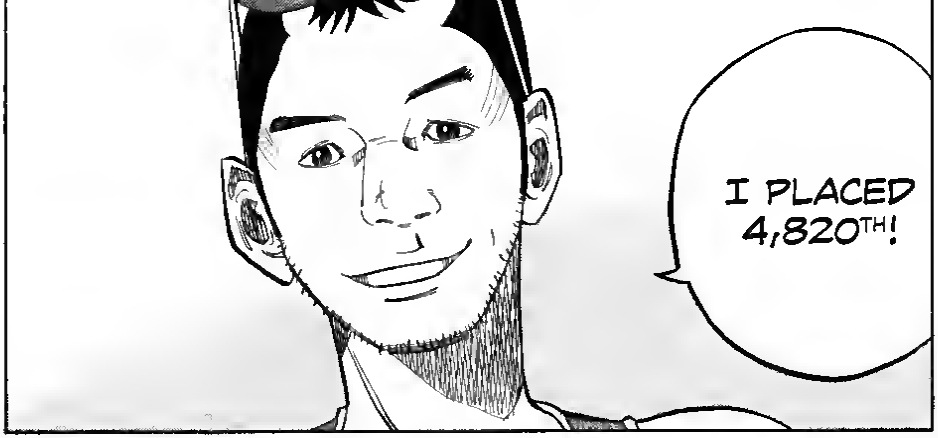
TRACK 11

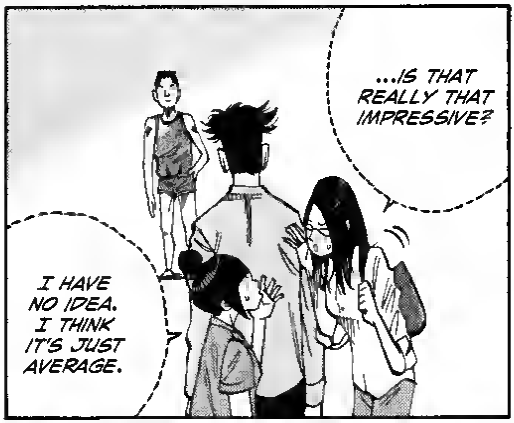
EMERGENCY ROOM (PART 1)

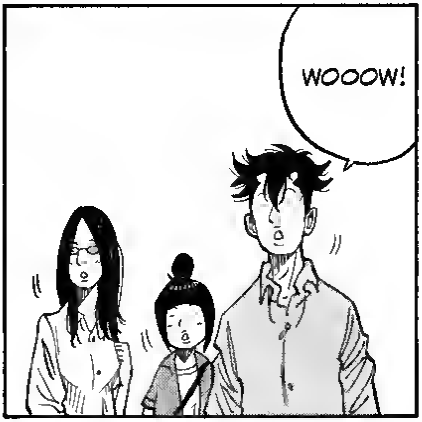
WE'LL BE FINE.
THE YAKINIKU PLACE'S GONNA CLOSE!
C'MON, DR. KOUNOTORI, HURRY UP!
LOOK, DR. SHIMOYA'S STARVING TO DEATH.
I'M SO HUNGRY!
YOU GUYS GOING FOR YAKINIKU TONIGHT?
.....

WHO ARE YOU?

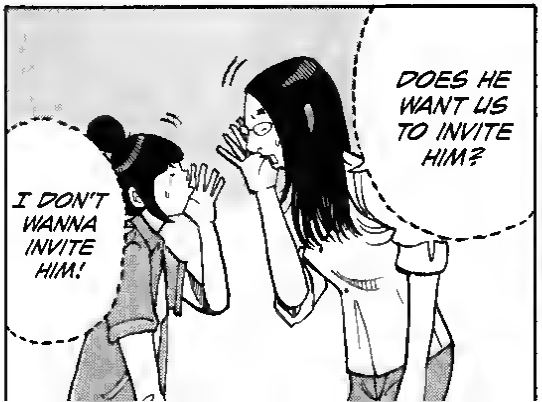
MAN, YOU GUYS.
IT'S ME, FUNAKOSHI? THE ANESTHESIOLOGIST?
.....
OHH, DR. FUNAKOSHI!
WHAT'S THAT GETUP FOR?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT, I FORGOT RUNNING MARATHONS WAS YOUR HOBBY.
I'M JUST DOING A LITTLE TRAINING.
THERE'S A BIG MARATHON COMING UP SOON.
YUP! OUT OF 10,000 RUNNERS IN THE LAST MARATHON,


I PLACED 4,820TH!


...IS THAT REALLY THAT IMPRESSIVE?
I HAVE NO IDEA. I THINK IT'S JUST AVERAGE.

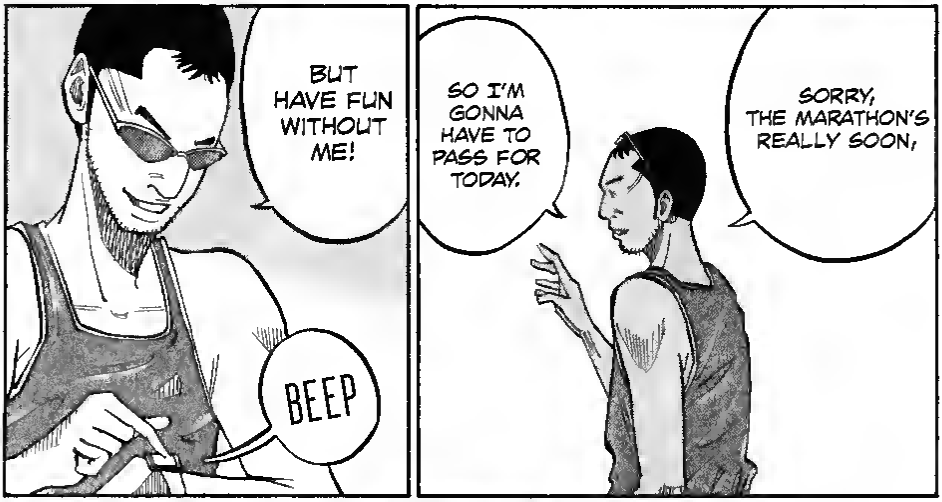

WOOOW!

.....
.....


DOES HE WANT US TO INVITE HIM?
I DON'T WANNA INVITE HIM!

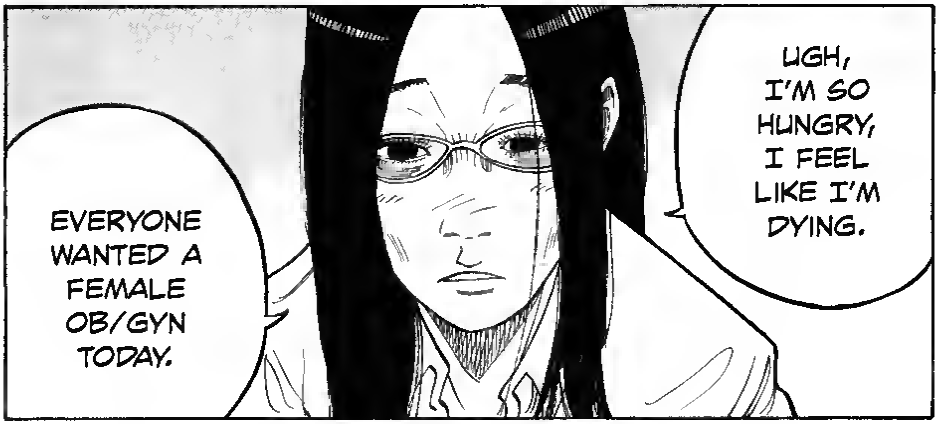
OH, SO YOU'RE ALL GOING OUT TO EAT YAKINIKU!
THAT SOUNDS FUN.

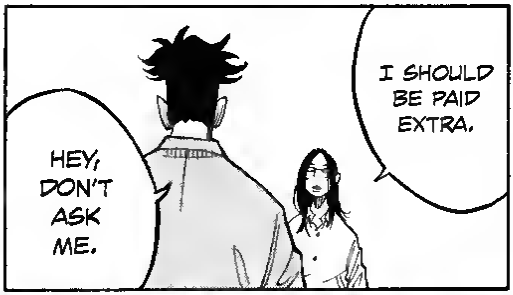
NO, DON'T!
WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US, DR. FUNAKOSHI?
DO YOU WANNA GO TO A RESTAURANT WITH SOMEONE DRESSED LIKE THAT?!
.....
...NO.


BUT HAVE FUN WITHOUT ME!
BEEP
SO I'M GONNA HAVE TO PASS FOR TODAY.
SORRY, THE MARATHON'S REALLY SOON,

...WAS ANYONE CHEERING HIM ON?
NOPE.
...I WASN'T.
THANKS FOR CHEERING ME ON!
I'M GONNA TRAIN HARD FOR THIS ONE!

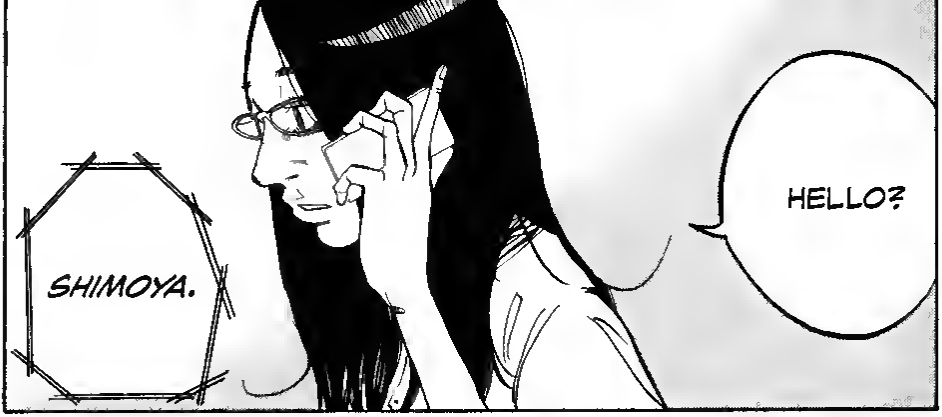
NOT DRINKING TONIGHT, DR. KOUNO-TORI?
I'M ON CALL TONIGHT.
炭火焼肉
とおる
THREE PORTIONS OF BEEF TONGUE,
AND THREE BEERS.
THREE PORTIONS OF KALBI AND SKIRT STEAK,
I'LL JUST HAVE AN OOLONG TEA.
木物の味
とおる

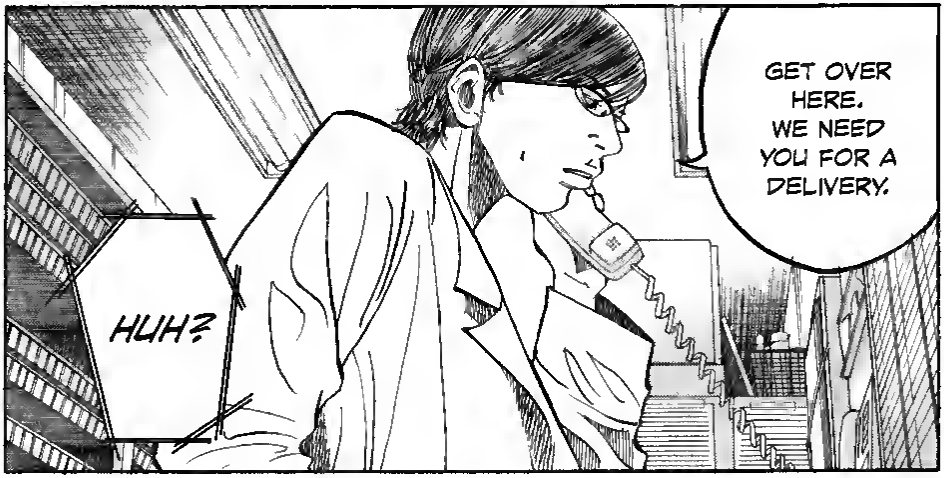

UGH, I'M SO HUNGRY, I FEEL LIKE I'M DYING.
EVERYONE WANTED A FEMALE OB/GYN TODAY.

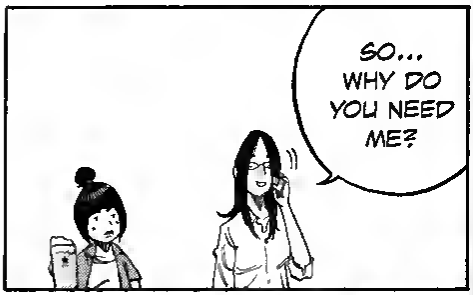

I SHOULD BE PAID EXTRA.
HEY, DON'T ASK ME.

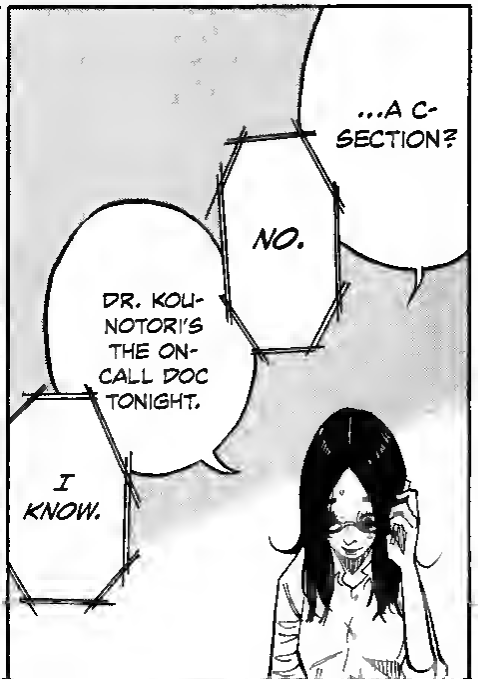
YEAH, THERE ARE A LOT OF WOMEN...
WHO ONLY WANT TO BE SEEN BY A FEMALE DOCTOR.

ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT, LET'S DRINK, 'KAY?
生ビール
ハイボール
OH, ONE SEC.


HELLO?
SHIMOYA.


GET OVER HERE. WE NEED YOU FOR A DELIVERY.
HUH?

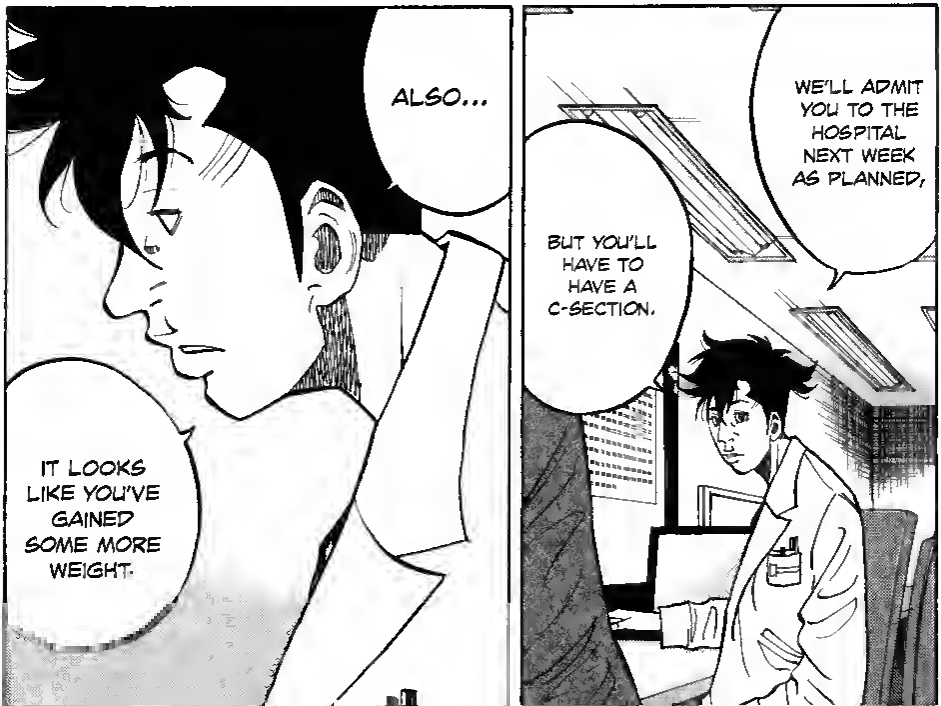

SO... WHY DO YOU NEED ME?


...A C-SECTION?
NO.
DR. KOU-NOTORI'S THE ON-CALL DOC TONIGHT.
I KNOW.

SHE'S FROM MALAYSIA, AND A MUSLIM...

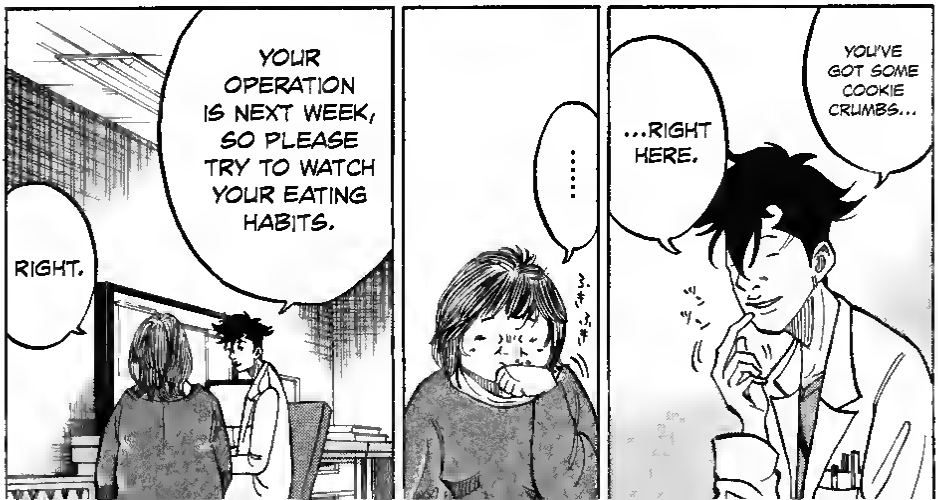
...AND SHE'S DEMANDING TO SEE A FEMALE DOCTOR.
.....
UM... BUT MY MEAT...
JUST HURRY UP AND GET OVER HERE.
WHAT'S UP?
IT'LL BE OUT SOON!
beep beep beep
BUT MY MEAT ISN'T HERE YET!
I... I GOTTA GO BACK TO THE HOSPITAL.

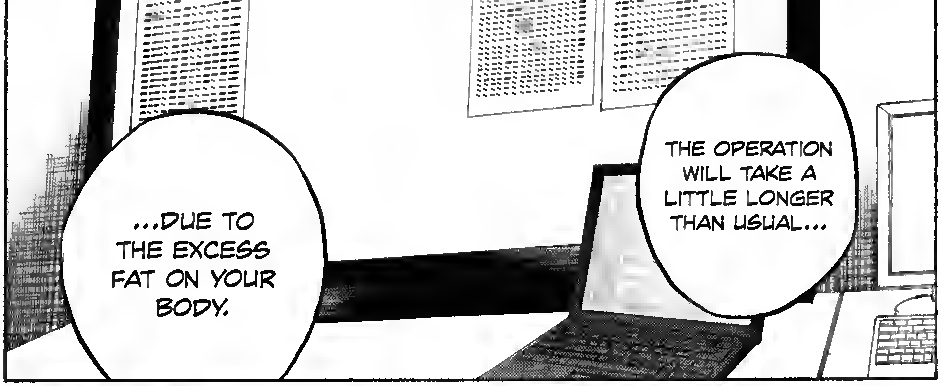
AS I THOUGHT,
YOUR BABY IS BREECH, MARUYAMA-SAN.

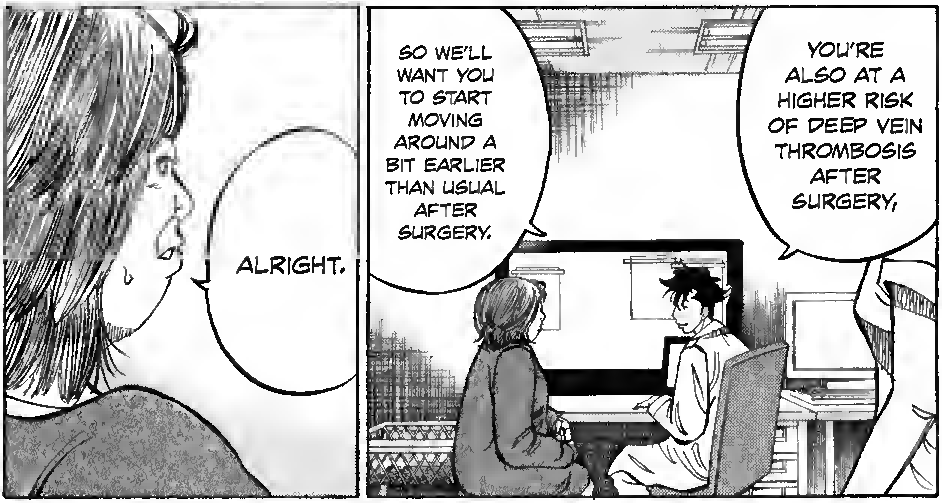

ALSO...
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GAINED SOME MORE WEIGHT.
WE'LL ADMIT YOU TO THE HOSPITAL NEXT WEEK AS PLANNED,
BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO HAVE A C-SECTION.

YOUR WEIGHT'S ABOVE 100 KG* NOW.
REALLY?
*ABOUT 220 POUNDS.

THAT'S WEIRD.
I'VE BEEN CUTTING DOWN ON SNACKS...

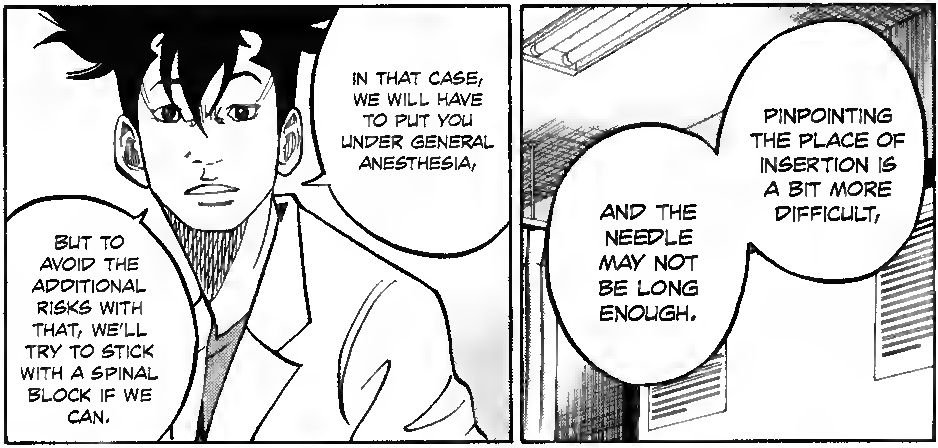

YOUR OPERATION IS NEXT WEEK, SO PLEASE TRY TO WATCH YOUR EATING HABITS.
RIGHT.
.....
YOU'VE GOT SOME COOKIE CRUMBS...
...RIGHT HERE.

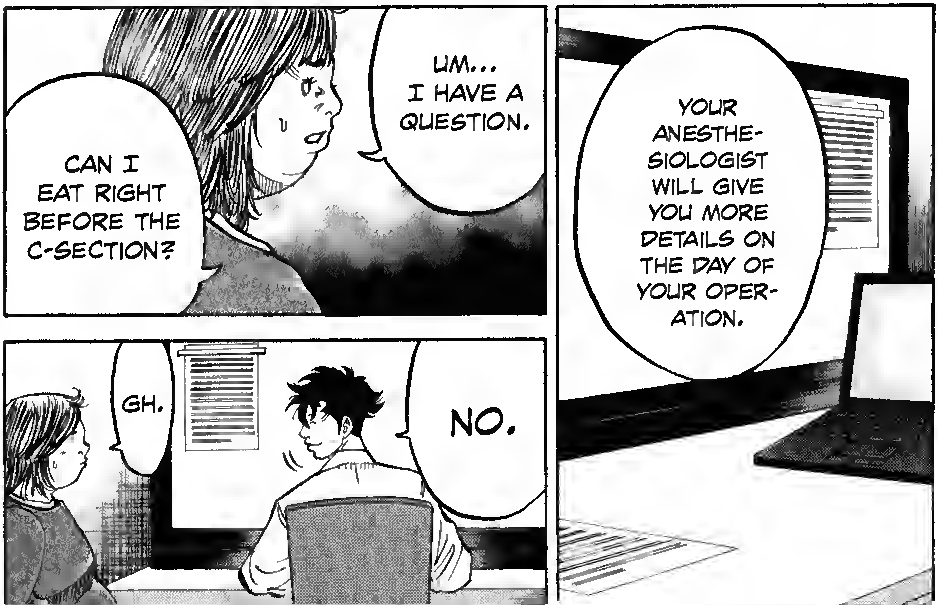

THE OPERATION WILL TAKE A LITTLE LONGER THAN USUAL...
...DUE TO THE EXCESS FAT ON YOUR BODY.

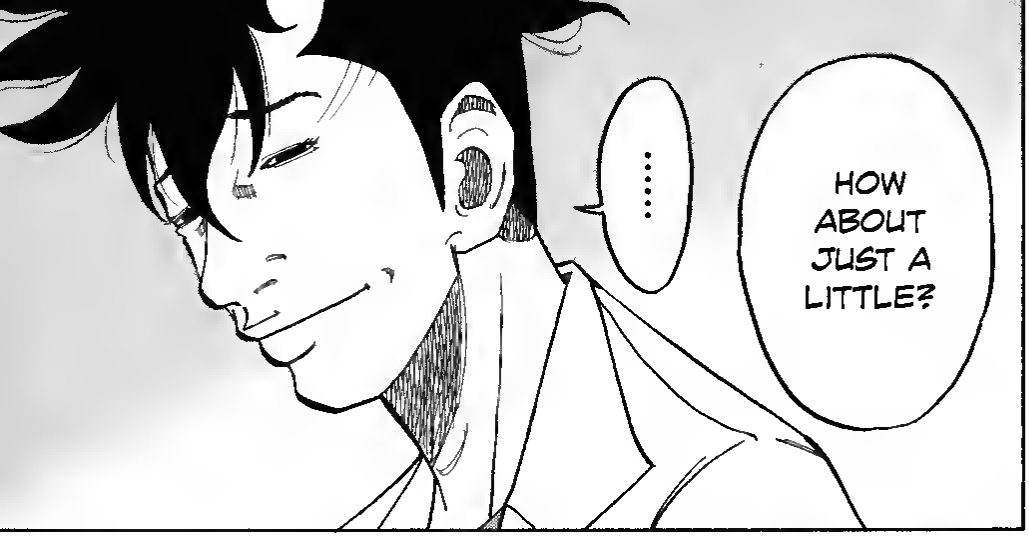

YOU'RE ALSO AT A HIGHER RISK OF DEEP VEIN THROMBOSIS AFTER SURGERY,
SO WE'LL WANT YOU TO START MOVING AROUND A BIT EARLIER THAN USUAL AFTER SURGERY.
ALRIGHT.

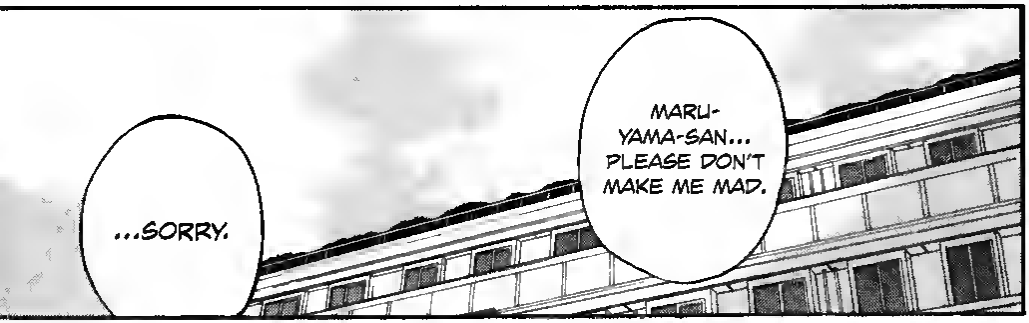
WE'LL ALSO HAVE TO WATCH FOR INFECTION,
AS WELL AS MAKE SURE YOUR INCISION HEALS UP ALRIGHT.
THANK YOU, DOCTOR.
YOU'LL BE GIVEN A SPINAL BLOCK DURING YOUR C-SECTION.

A SPINAL BLOCK IS ADMINISTERED THROUGH A NEEDLE INSERTED INTO YOUR BACK.
IT WILL COMPLETELY NUMB YOU FROM THE WAIST DOWN.
HOWEVER, SINCE YOU ARE OVER-WEIGHT, THERE ARE SOME RISKS.


PINPOINTING THE PLACE OF INSERTION IS A BIT MORE DIFFICULT,
AND THE NEEDLE MAY NOT BE LONG ENOUGH.
IN THAT CASE, WE WILL HAVE TO PUT YOU UNDER GENERAL ANESTHESIA,
BUT TO AVOID THE ADDITIONAL RISKS WITH THAT, WE'LL TRY TO STICK WITH A SPINAL BLOCK IF WE CAN.


YOUR ANESTHE-SIOLOGIST WILL GIVE YOU MORE DETAILS ON THE DAY OF YOUR OPER-ATION.
UM... I HAVE A QUESTION.
CAN I EAT RIGHT BEFORE THE C-SECTION?
NO.
GH.


HOW ABOUT JUST A LITTLE?
.....

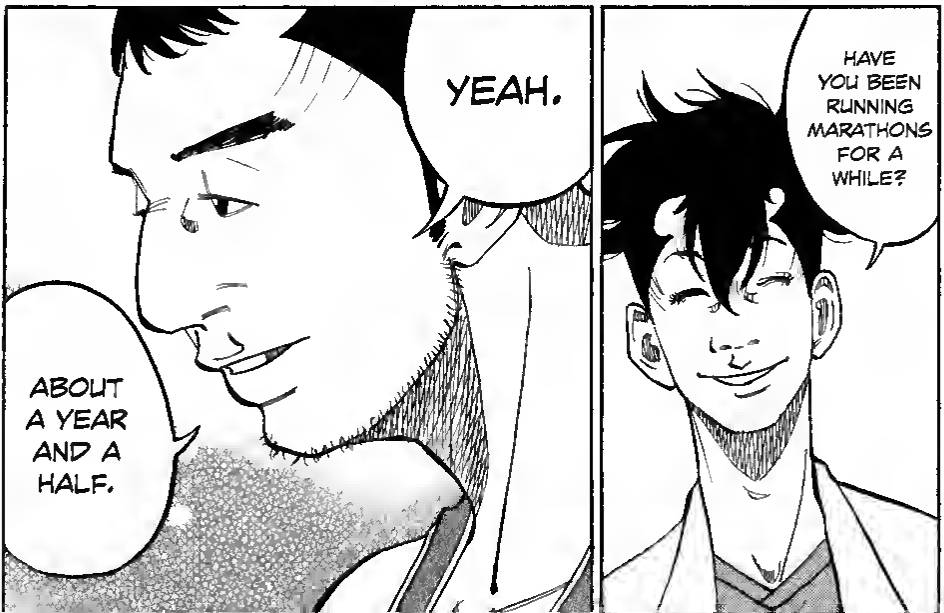

MARU-YAMA-SAN... PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME MAD.
...SORRY.

DR. KOUNO-TORI!
ON DUTY AGAIN TODAY?
DR. FUNA-KOSHI!
UH-HUH. I JUST GOT MY DINNER, CUP YAKI-SOBA!
スッ

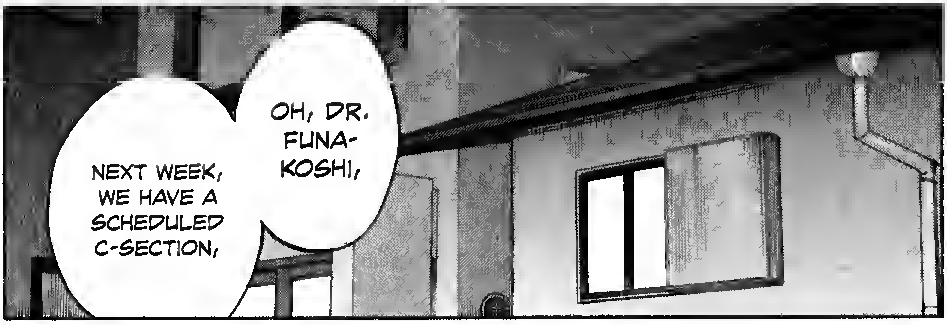
RUNNING HOME AGAIN TODAY?
YUP!
THE BIG MARATHON'S COMING UP QUICK.
HOW ABOUT IT, DOC?
WANNA START RUNNING MARA-THONS?
NO, I'M NOT A GOOD RUNNER.
I SEE...
I LOVE MARA-THONS.
YOU STUDY THE COURSE,
COME UP WITH A PLAN, AND JUST RUN.

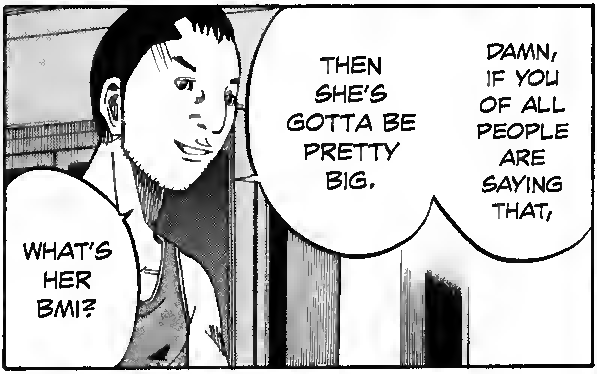
YOU'RE IN AN EXTREME SITUATION ALL BY YOURSELF.
SO YOU HAVE TO STAY ATTENTIVE AND MAKE SHARP DECISIONS...
...SO YOU CAN RUN THROUGH TO THE END.

IT'S KINDA LIKE WHAT I DO AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST.
COME UP WITH A PLAN FOR SURGERY WHILE WATCHING OUT FOR THE PATIENT'S LIFE.
.....
処方せん調

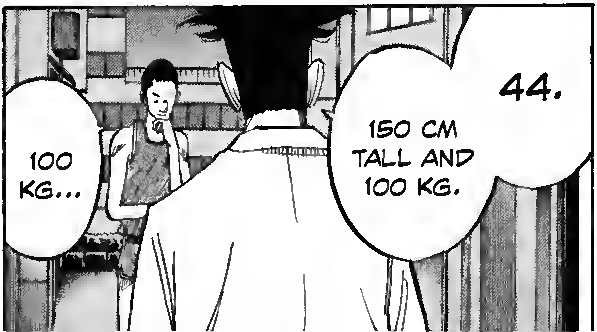

YEAH.
ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF.
HAVE YOU BEEN RUNNING MARATHONS FOR A WHILE?

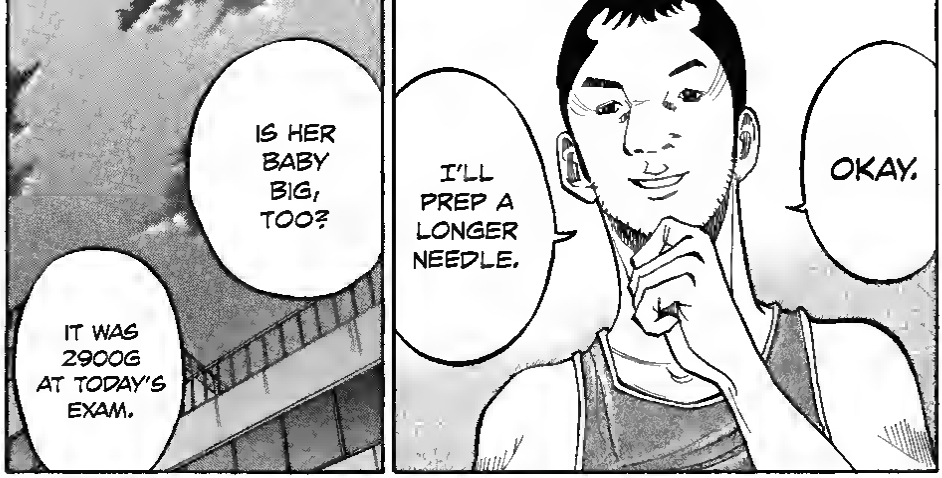
WOOOOOW.

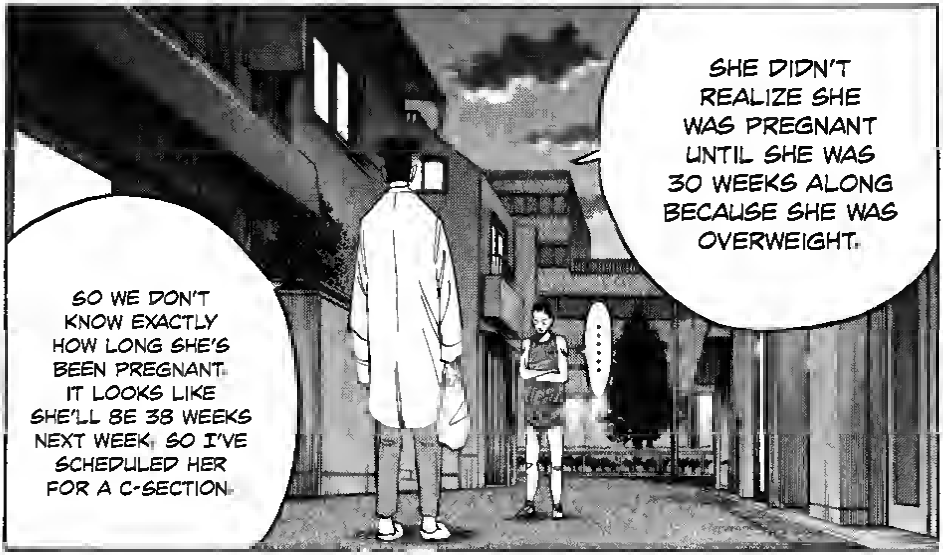

OH, DR. FUNA-KOSHI,
NEXT WEEK, WE HAVE A SCHEDULED C-SECTION,

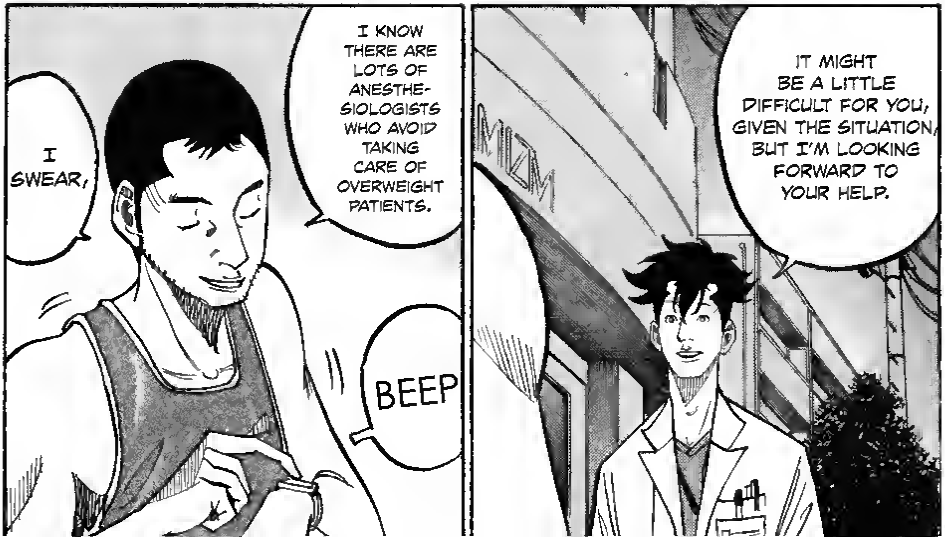

DAMN, IF YOU OF ALL PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT,
THEN SHE'S GOTTA BE PRETTY BIG.
WHAT'S HER BMI?

AND THE PATIENT IS A *LITTLE* OVERWEIGHT.


44.
150 CM TALL AND 100 KG.
100 KG...


IS HER BABY BIG, TOO?
IT WAS 2900G AT TODAY'S EXAM.
I'LL PREP A LONGER NEEDLE.
OKAY.


SHE DIDN'T REALIZE SHE WAS PREGNANT UNTIL SHE WAS 30 WEEKS ALONG BECAUSE SHE WAS OVERWEIGHT.
SO WE DON'T KNOW EXACTLY HOW LONG SHE'S BEEN PREGNANT. IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'LL BE 38 WEEKS NEXT WEEK, SO I'VE SCHEDULED HER FOR A C-SECTION.


I KNOW THERE ARE LOTS OF ANESTHE-SIOLOGISTS WHO AVOID TAKING CARE OF OVERWEIGHT PATIENTS.
I SWEAR,
BEEP
IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE DIFFICULT FOR YOU, GIVEN THE SITUATION, BUT I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR HELP.

PRETTYANONYMO.US TL/TS: ANONBLACK CL: PRIGGIE

手術中
ALRIGHT, MARUYAMA-SAN.
COULD YOU ROLL ONTO YOUR SIDE?

THEN I'D LIKE YOU TO CURL UP LIKE A SHRIMP.
A SHRIMP?

OKAY.

YUP, JUST LIKE A SHRIMP.

WHOA!
HAH!

...ALMOST, BUT NOT QUITE.
THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT WE WANTED,

MARU-YAMA-SAN.
GH!

YOU SHOULD ROLL UP LIKE A ROLY-POLY.
SORRY, MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE CLEAR.
DOCTOR... IS THIS GONNA HURT?
OKAY, NOW I'M GOING TO CLEAN IT OFF.
ぬり
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BUT DON'T WORRY...
AND YOU'LL FEEL SOME-THING GOING INTO YOUR BACK.
IT'LL PINCH JUST FOR A SECOND,

OKAY, I'M JUST TOUCHING YOUR SPINE NOW.
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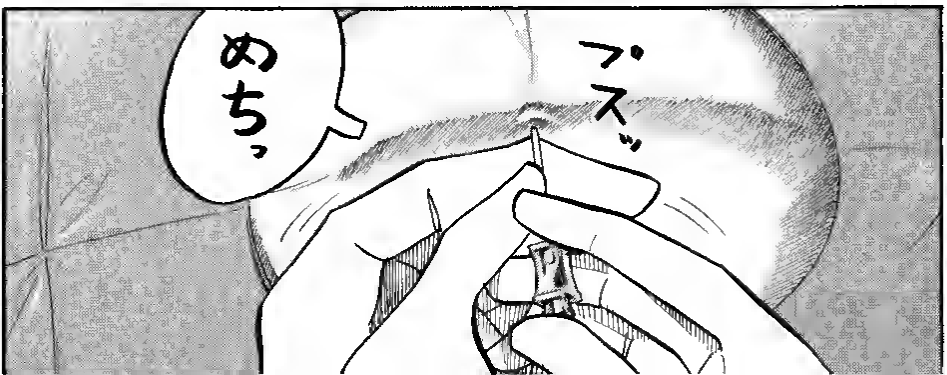
IT'LL BE DONE IN A PINCH.
AHAHA! GOOD ONE, YEAH?
……

HERE COMES THE NEEDLE.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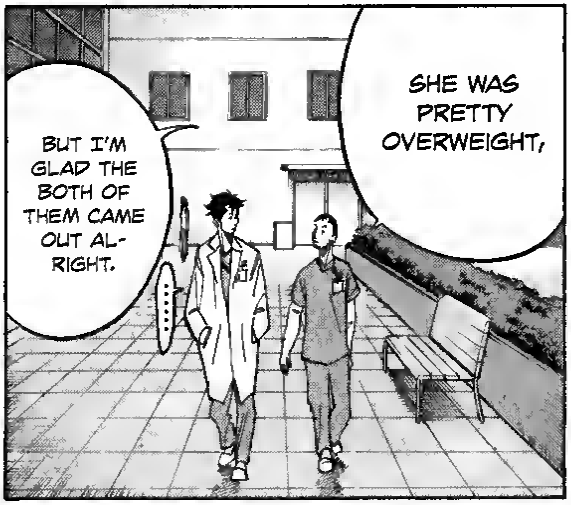
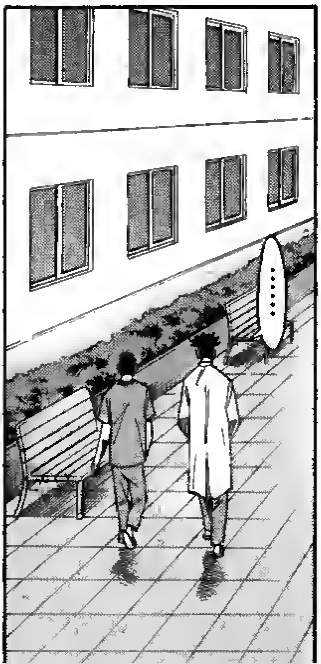
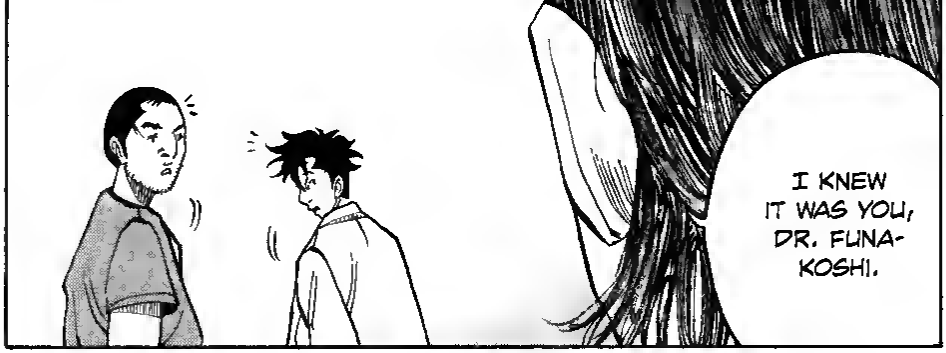
GOOD WORK TODAY, DR. FUNAKOSHI.

I AGREE.


SHE WAS PRETTY OVERWEIGHT,
BUT I'M GLAD THE BOTH OF THEM CAME OUT ALRIGHT.
.....


.....

MY PUN *DELIVERY* WAS ON *POINT!*


I KNEW IT WAS YOU, DR. FUNAKOSHI.

I *THOUGHT* I HEARD SOME CRAPPY PUNS.

RIGHT, DR. KOUNOTORI?
HUH?

WHY DO YOU HAVE SO MUCH FREE TIME? YOU'RE AN ER DOC.
YOU SKIPPING WORK TO EAT ICE CREAM?

DR. KASE!
T-THEY'RE NOT CRAPPY!

KOUNODORI

コウノトリ

THE STORK

3

THIRD

鈴ノ木ユウ

MORNING KC

PLACENTAL ABRUPTION OCCURS IN 1 TO 2% OF PREGNANCIES, HOWEVER, THE RISK IS DOUBLED FOR MOTHERS THAT SMOKE. PLACENTAL ABRUPTION PUTS BOTH THE MOTHER'S AND THE BABY'S LIFE IN DANGER.

AFTER 22 WEEKS, INSURANCE COMPANIES NO LONGER COVER OVERSEAS MEDICAL COSTS. A PREGNANT WOMAN THAT GIVES BIRTH WHILE TRAVELING ABROAD MAY END UP SADDLED WITH A LARGE DEBT.

1 IN 10 BIRTHS REQUIRE A C-SECTION. BIRTH CENTERS STAFFED BY MIDWIVES DO NOT HAVE AN OBSTETRICS DEPARTMENT AND THUS CANNOT PERFORM C-SECTIONS. SO WHY GIVE BIRTH IN A BIRTH CENTER RATHER THAN A HOSPITAL?

THE ER OPERATES 24-7 TO TREAT PATIENTS WITH SERIOUS INJURIES, SUCH AS CEREBRAL HEMORRHAGING, MULTIPLE INJURIES, OR INJURIES DUE TO TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS. IT STANDS ON THE FRONT LINES WITH ONLY ONE GOAL IN MIND - SAVING LIVES.

COVER DESIGN:RYUTARO WATANABE

KOUNODORI 3

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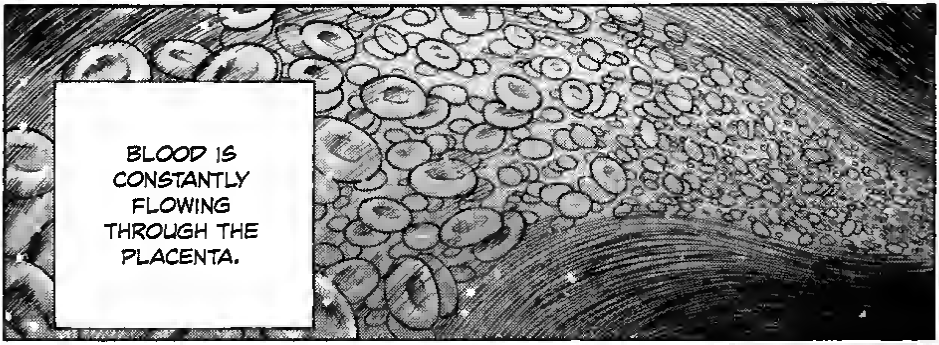
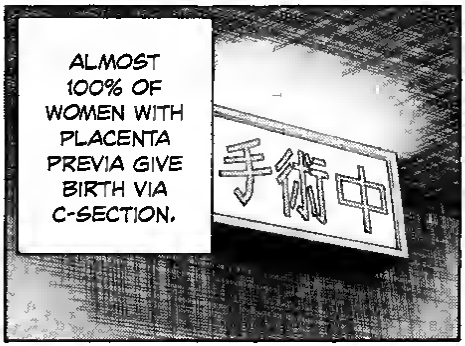
PRETTYANONYMO.US SCAN/TL/TS: ANONBLACK CL: PRIGGIE QC: FCKYEAHLAMIA

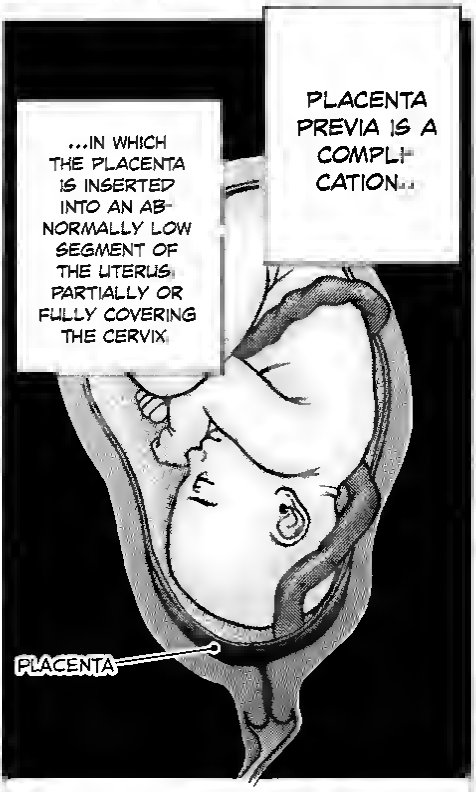
TRACK 8

SMOKING (PART 2)

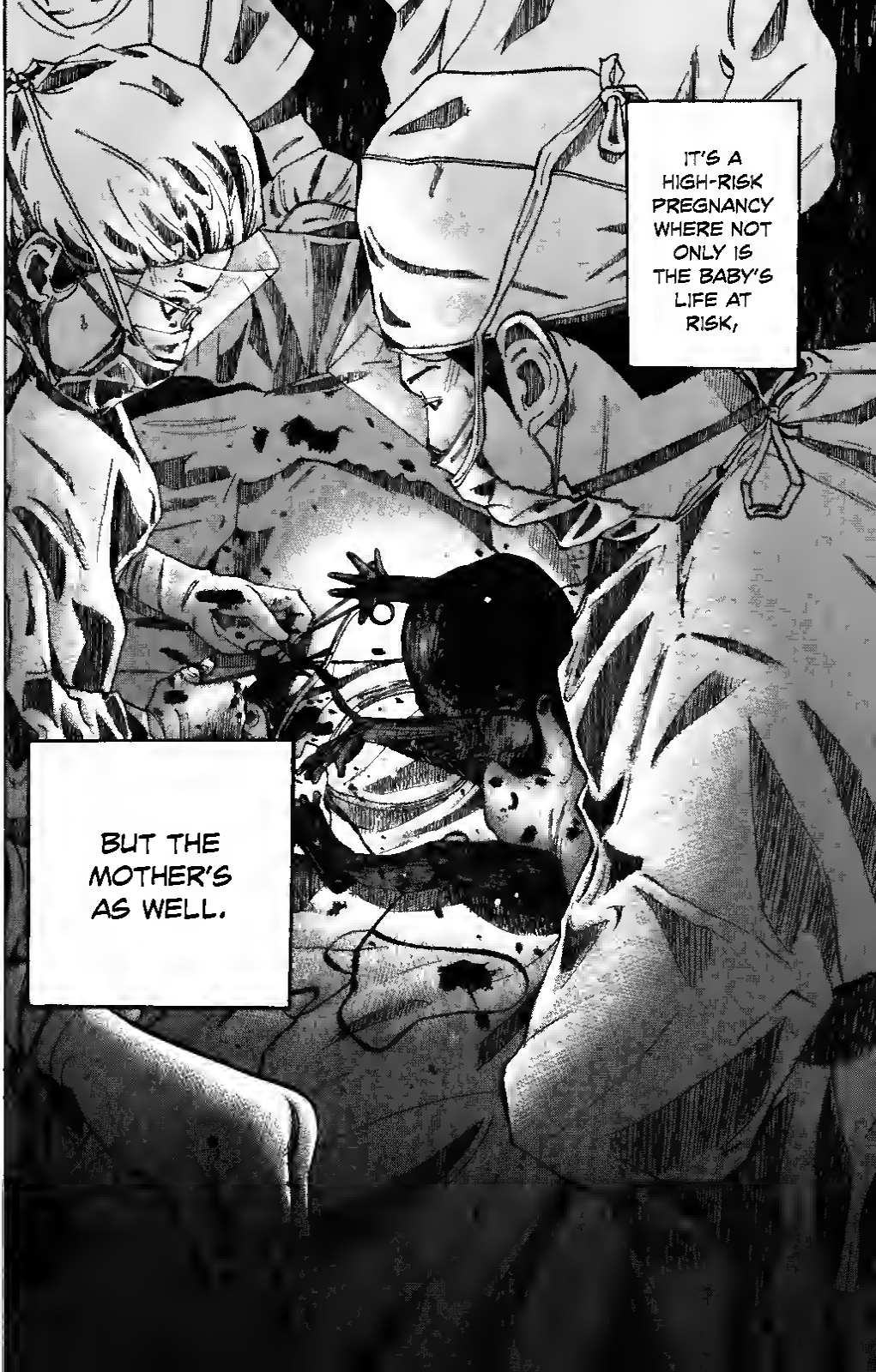
THE PLACENTA IS THE ORGAN THAT CONNECTS THE DEVELOPING FETUS TO THE MOTHER.
BLOOD VESSELS BRANCH THROUGH THE PLACENTA LIKE THE ROOTS OF A TREE
TO PROVIDE NUTRIENTS AND OXYGEN TO THE FETUS.


BLOOD IS CONSTANTLY FLOWING THROUGH THE PLACENTA.

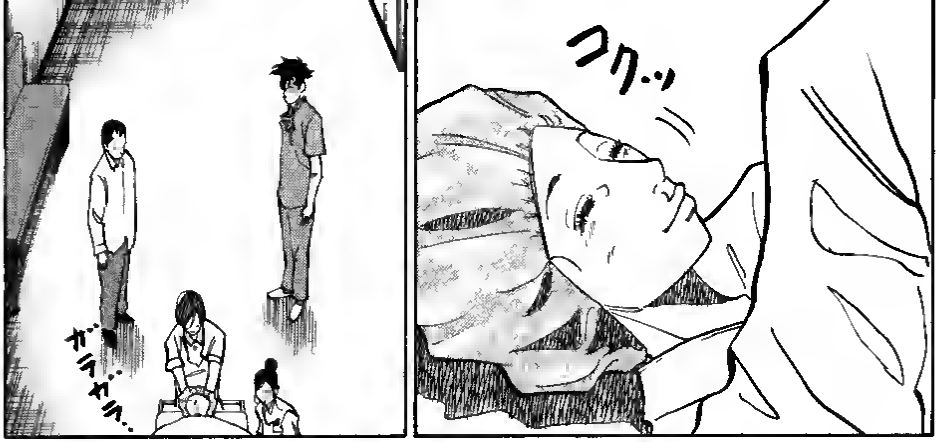

ALMOST 100% OF WOMEN WITH PLACENTA PREVIA GIVE BIRTH VIA C-SECTION.
手術中

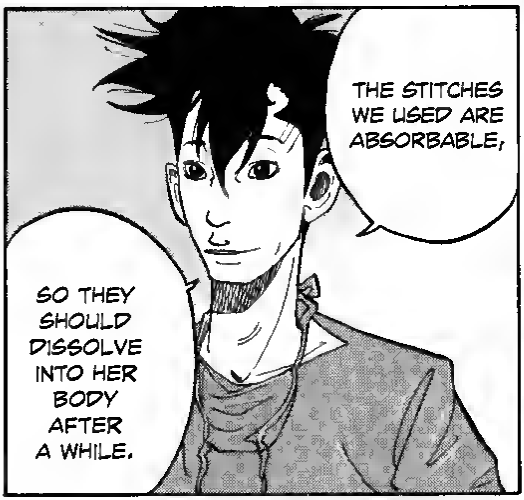

PLACENTA PREVIA IS A COMPLI-CATION...
...IN WHICH THE PLACENTA IS INSERTED INTO AN AB-NORMALLY LOW SEGMENT OF THE UTERUS, PARTIALLY OR FULLY COVERING THE CERVIX.
PLACENTA

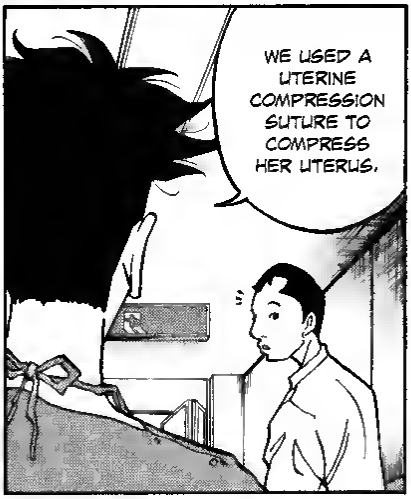
HERE COMES THE BABY.
THE MOTHER CAN LOSE LARGE AMOUNTS OF BLOOD DURING PREGNANCY AND DELIVERY.

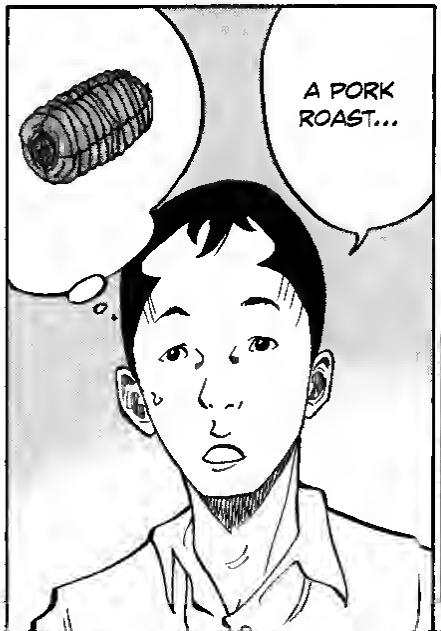

IT'S A HIGH-RISK PREGNANCY WHERE NOT ONLY IS THE BABY'S LIFE AT RISK,
BUT THE MOTHER'S AS WELL.

D... DR. KOUNO-TORI!
手術中
THE PROCEDURE WENT WELL.
REDUCING THE BLOOD FLOW TO THE UTERUS.
AND INFLATED THEM AFTER THE BABY WAS BORN,
WE INSERTED THE OCCLUSION BALLOONS BEFORE THE SURGERY,
...YOU DID IT.
THERE WAS NO ABNORMAL PLACENTAL ATTACHMENT, EITHER.

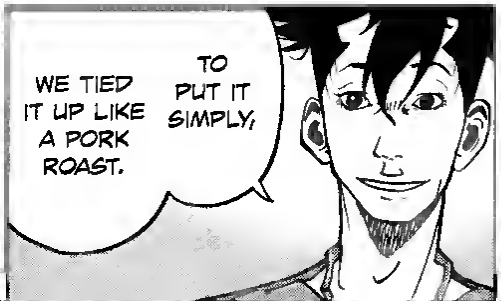

ガラガラ...
コク...

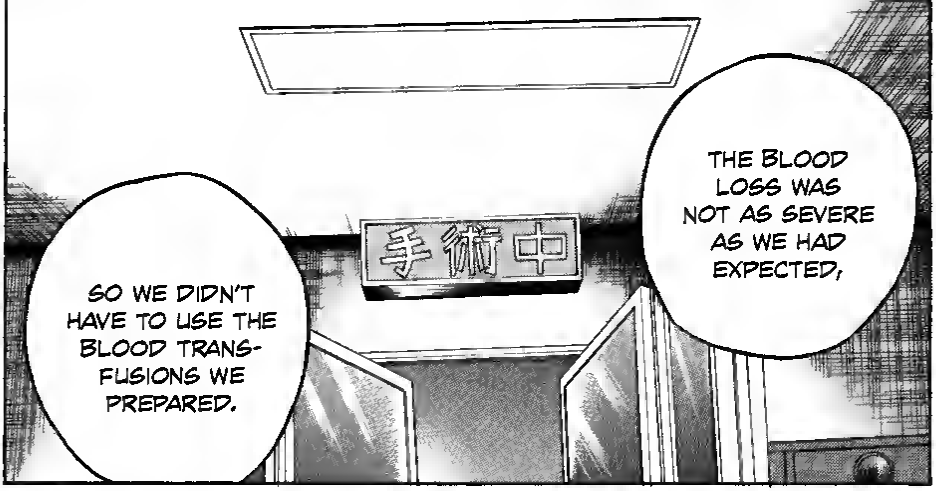

THE STITCHES WE USED ARE ABSORBABLE,
SO THEY SHOULD DISSOLVE INTO HER BODY AFTER A WHILE.

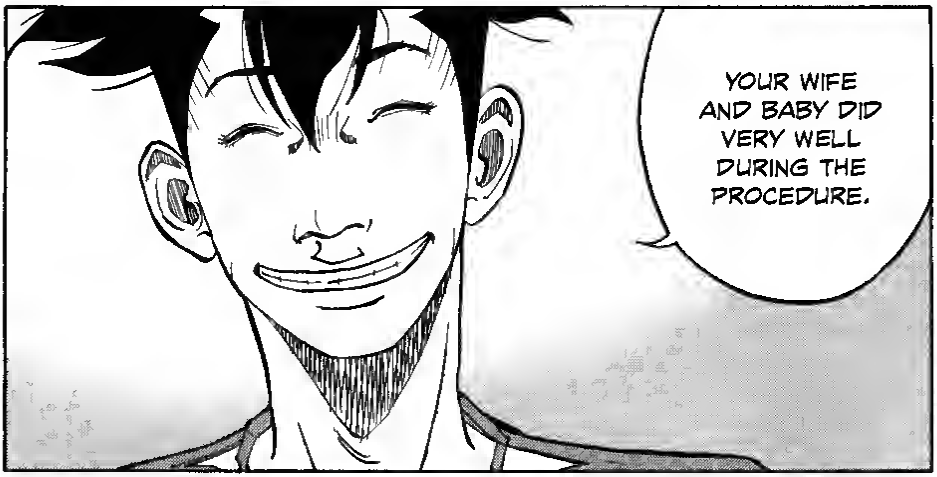

WE USED A UTERINE COMPRESSION SUTURE TO COMPRESS HER UTERUS.

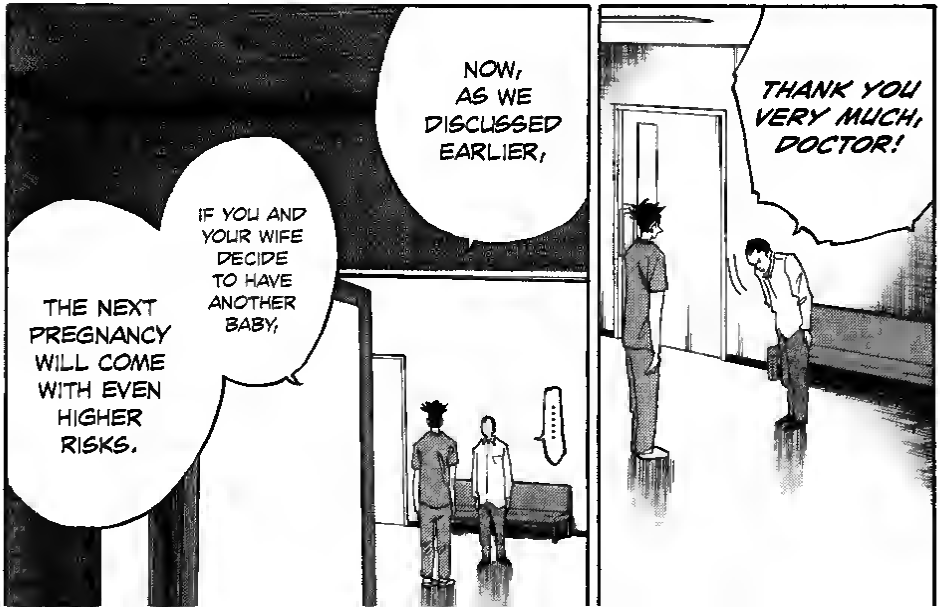

A PORK ROAST...

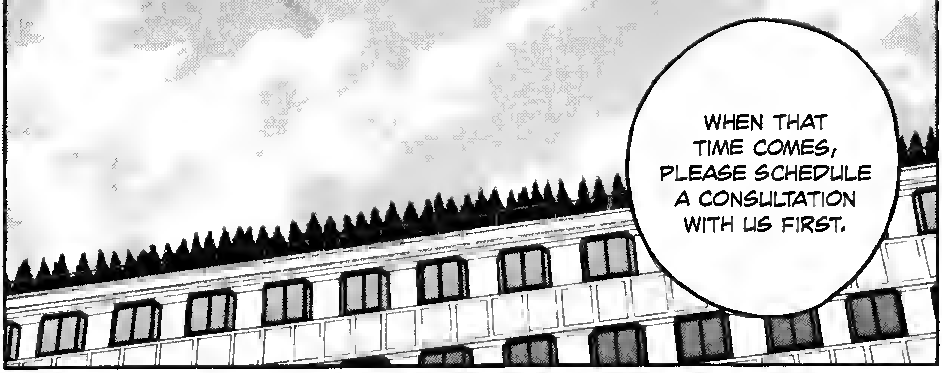
A COM-PRESSION SUTURE?


TO PUT IT SIMPLY,
WE TIED IT UP LIKE A PORK ROAST.

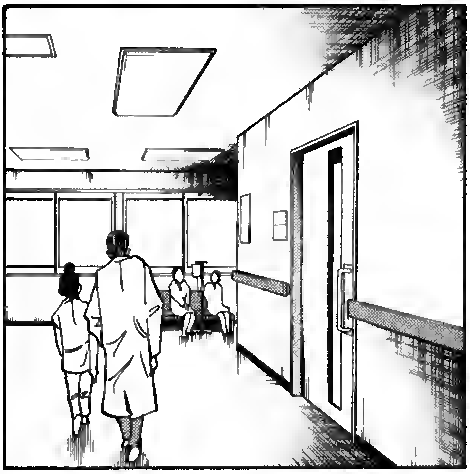

手術中
THE BLOOD LOSS WAS NOT AS SEVERE AS WE HAD EXPECTED,
SO WE DIDN'T HAVE TO USE THE BLOOD TRANS-FUSIONS WE PREPARED.

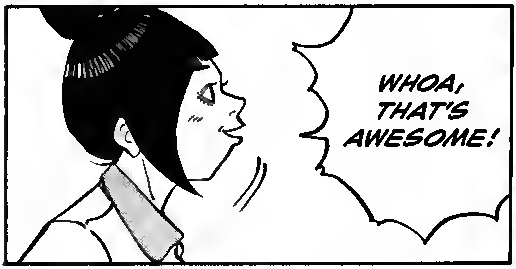

YOUR WIFE AND BABY DID VERY WELL DURING THE PROCEDURE.

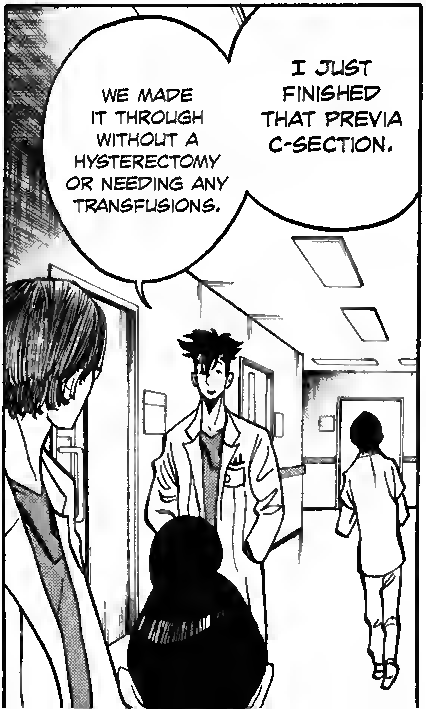

NOW, AS WE DISCUSSED EARLIER,
IF YOU AND YOUR WIFE DECIDE TO HAVE ANOTHER BABY,
THE NEXT PREGNANCY WILL COME WITH EVEN HIGHER RISKS.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, DOCTOR!

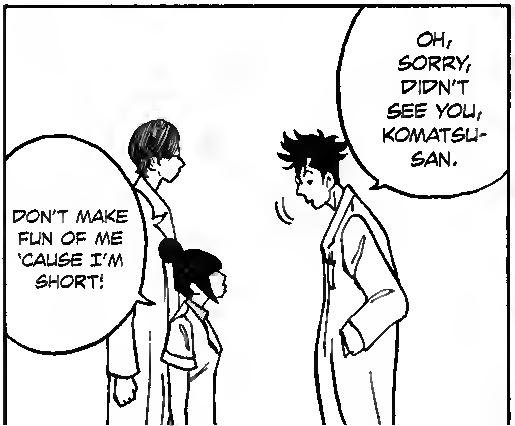

WHEN THAT TIME COMES, PLEASE SCHEDULE A CONSULTATION WITH US FIRST.

SHINO-MIYA.



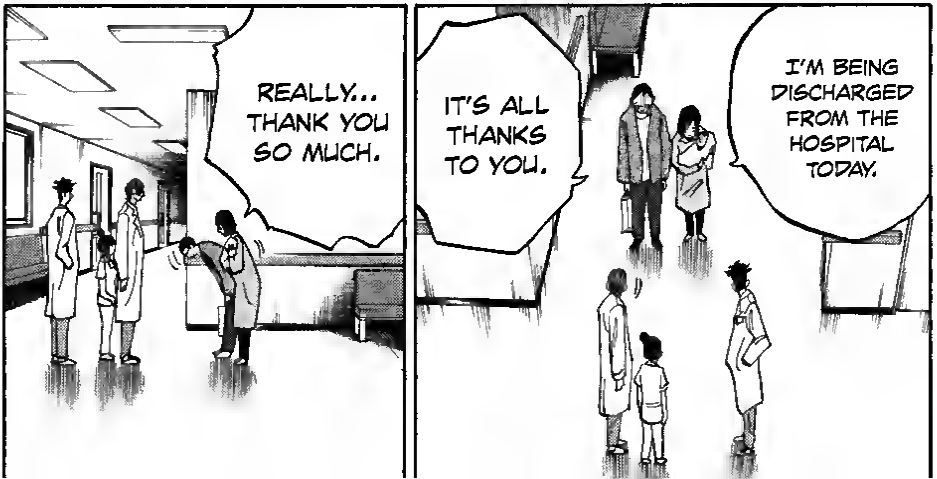

WHOA, THAT'S AWESOME!

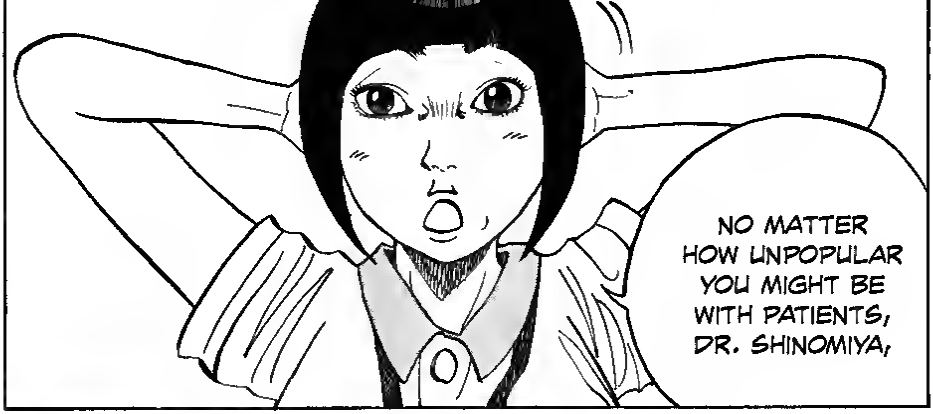

I JUST FINISHED THAT PREVIA C-SECTION.
WE MADE IT THROUGH WITHOUT A HYSTERECTOMY OR NEEDING ANY TRANSFUSIONS.


OH, SORRY, DIDN'T SEE YOU, KOMATSU-SAN.
DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME 'CAUSE I'M SHORT!

JUST GOT LUCKY.
.....
HMPH.
YOU AND YOUR PATIENT...

HEY NOW, DON'T BE LIKE THAT.
UM... DR. SHINO-MIYA?


REALLY... THANK YOU SO MUCH.
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU.
I'M BEING DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL TODAY.


NO MATTER HOW UNPOPULAR YOU MIGHT BE WITH PATIENTS, DR. SHINOMIYA,

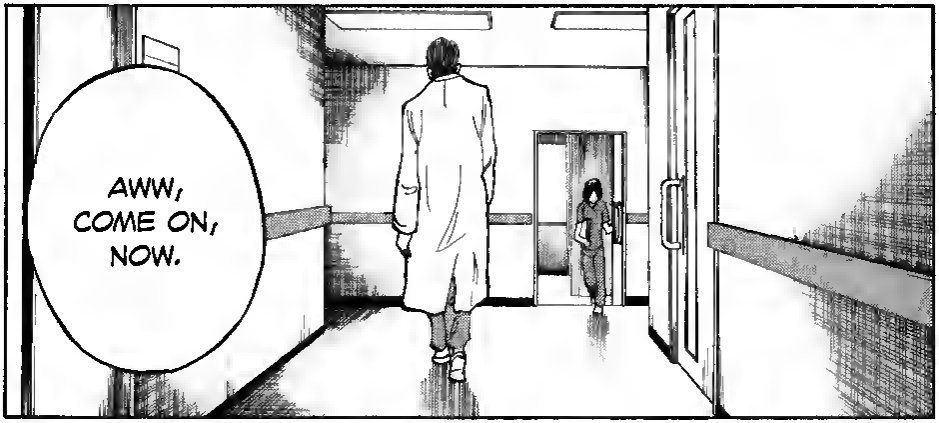
IF THE PATIENT GIVES BIRTH OKAY,
AND EVERYONE CAN GO HOME TOGETHER,

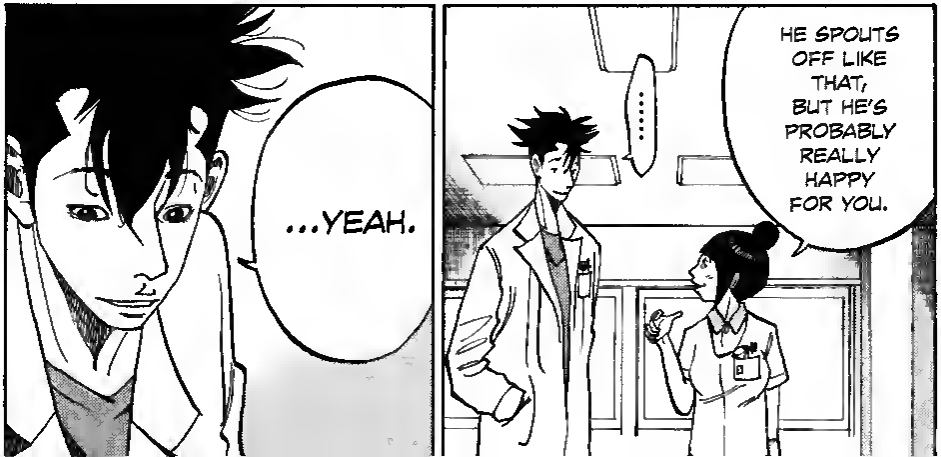
SORRY, WAS THAT RUDE?

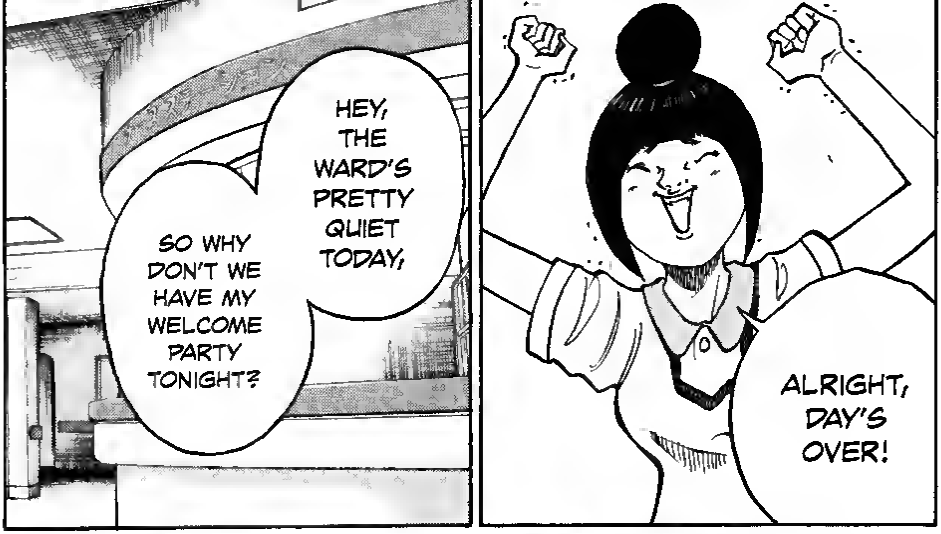
WHAT-EVER.

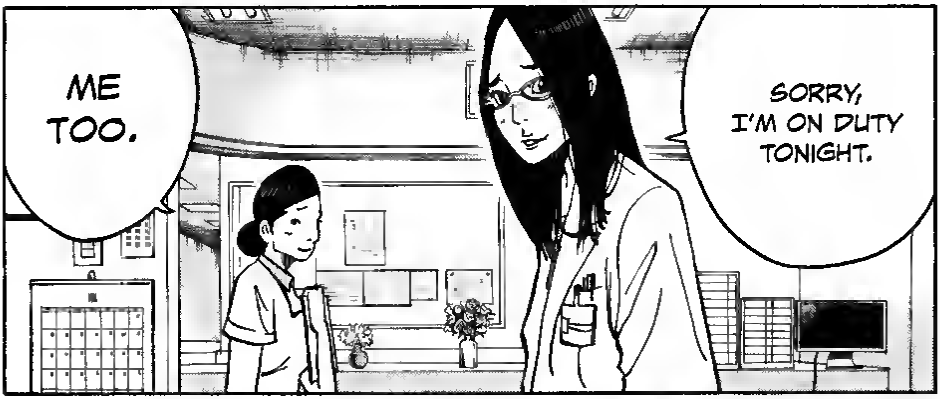
THEY'LL STILL THANK YOU IN THE END.

I DIDN'T BECOME A DOCTOR...
...BECAUSE I WANTED PATIENTS TO *THANK* ME.


AWW, COME ON, NOW.


...YEAH.
.....
HE SPOUTS OFF LIKE THAT, BUT HE'S PROBABLY REALLY HAPPY FOR YOU.


HEY, THE WARD'S PRETTY QUIET TODAY,
SO WHY DON'T WE HAVE MY WELCOME PARTY TONIGHT?
ALRIGHT, DAY'S OVER!

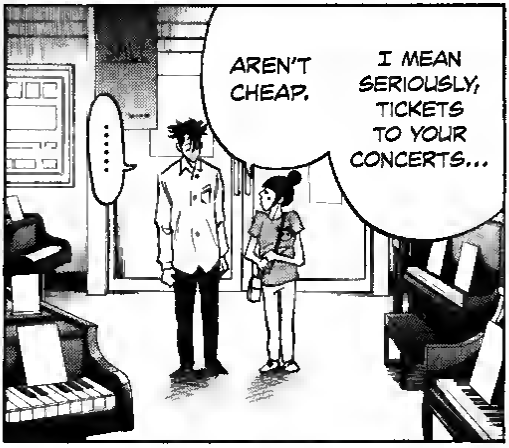

ME TOO.
SORRY, I'M ON DUTY TONIGHT.

I'VE GOT SOME STUFF TODAY, ACTUALLY...
HUH?
.....
I'VE GOT A DATE WITH MY BOYFRIEND.
.....
...SO THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN COME IS DR. KOU-NOTORI.

SHOULD I TELL EVERYONE, BABY?
!?
HEY, BABY.
I'LL GO, I'LL GO, JEEZ.
LET'S PARTY, THEN.
YES! I KNOW JUST THE PLACE I WANNA GO!
YOU MEAN...
WAIT...

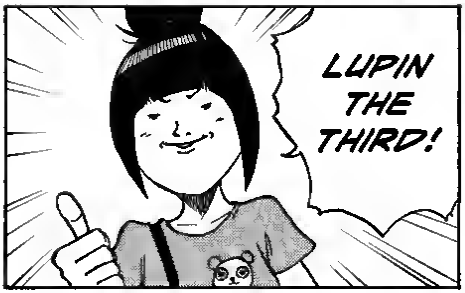
A PIANO STORE...
YEAH, I HAVEN'T HEARD YOU PLAY IN A WHILE!

I HAVE A HARD TIME LISTENING TO JAZZ FOR TWO HOURS.
AND, WELL,


.....
AREN'T CHEAP.
I MEAN SERIOUSLY, TICKETS TO YOUR CONCERTS...

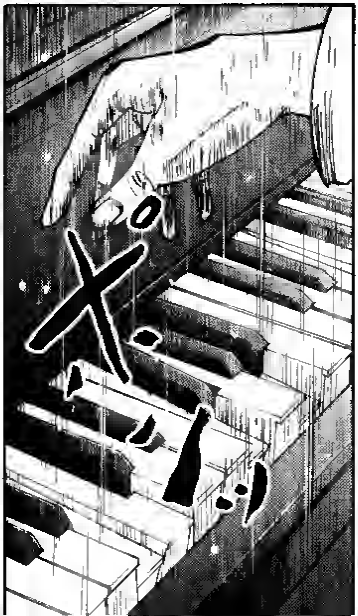
.....
I'LL TREAT YOU AT MY FAVORITE BAR LATER!
C'MON, JUST PLAY ONE SONG FOR ME!
.....
WHY PAY WHEN I CAN LISTEN TO YOU HERE FOR FREE!

ALRIGHT.


LUPIN THE THIRD!

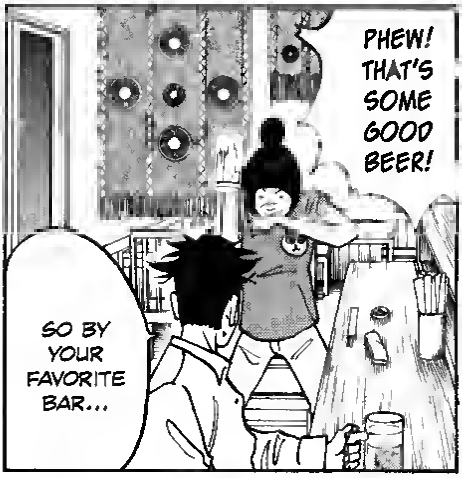
LUPIN THE THIRD?
...REALLY?

KOMATSU-SAN?
ANY REQUESTS,



MIKE
MAN, LUPIN'S THEME...
...SENDS A SHIVER DOWN MY SPINE EVERY TIME.

カンッ
CHEERS!


PHEW! THAT'S SOME GOOD BEER!
SO BY YOUR FAVORITE BAR...

DON'T SAY IT YOURSELF!
WELCOME TO ST. PERSONA GENERAL HOSPITAL, KOMATSU-SAN!
ゲビビビゲビゲビ

YOU MEANT THIS PLACE?
LEGS AND MORE
PIG LEG BAR
BOOM!
YUP! IT'S ALL ON ME, SO EAT UP!
...I'LL HAVE THE STEW, THEN.
HEY, BAR-TENDER! HE'LL HAVE THE STEW!
豚足

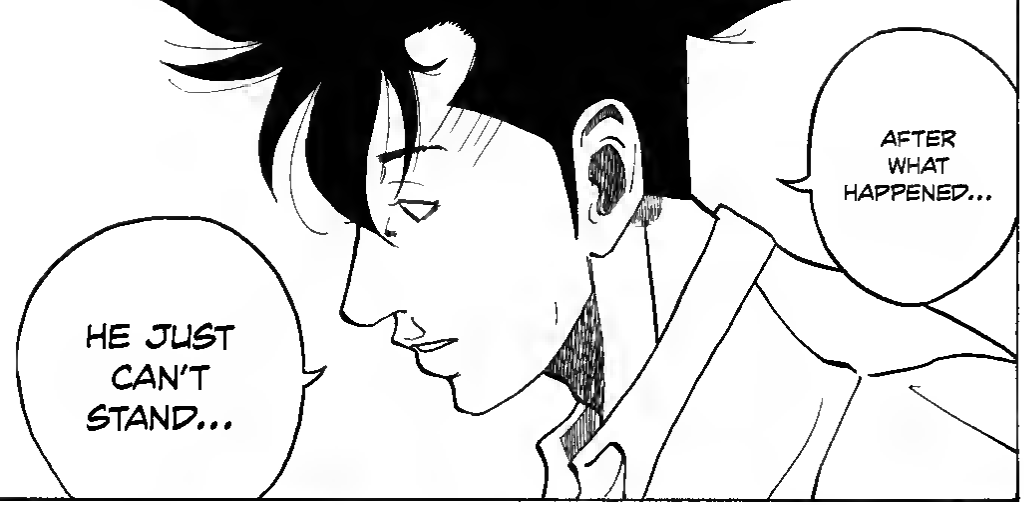
SERIOUSLY, THOUGH, THAT DR. SHINOMIYA...

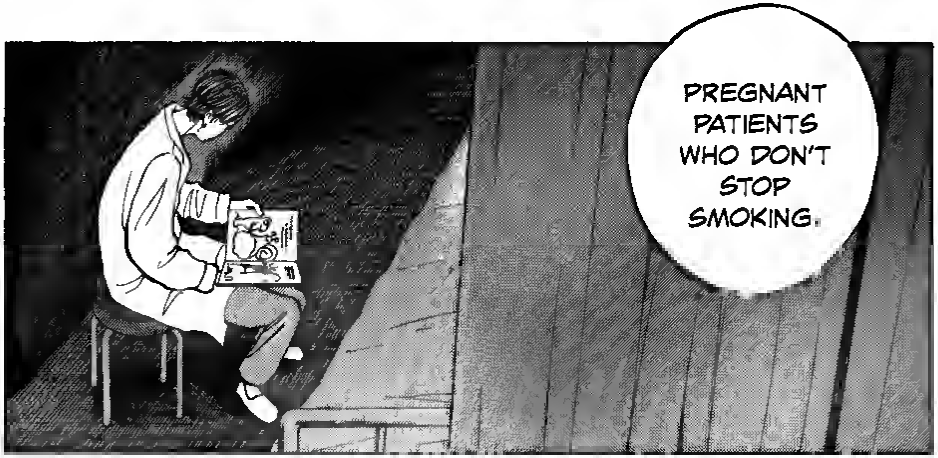
I MEAN, THE PATIENT HERSELF KNOWS AND WANTS TO STOP.
.....

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE TOLD THAT PATIENT...
THAT PREGNANT WOMEN WHO SMOKE SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED TO BE MOTHERS.

HE CAN'T BRING HIMSELF TO FORGIVE THEM.
HMM?

I MEAN, I CAN UNDER-STAND HOW HE FEELS.
SERIOUSLY, AFTER DOING THIS JOB FOR THIS LONG, I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'D WANNA SAY THAT TO SOMEONE.
.....


AFTER WHAT HAPPENED...
HE JUST CAN'T STAND...


PREGNANT PATIENTS WHO DON'T STOP SMOKING.

KSHH

...EVER AFTER. THE END.

KSH
I HAVE TO GO NOW.

I'LL BRING YOU A NEW PICTURE BOOK TOMORROW, OKAY?
KSHH
KSHH
KSHH

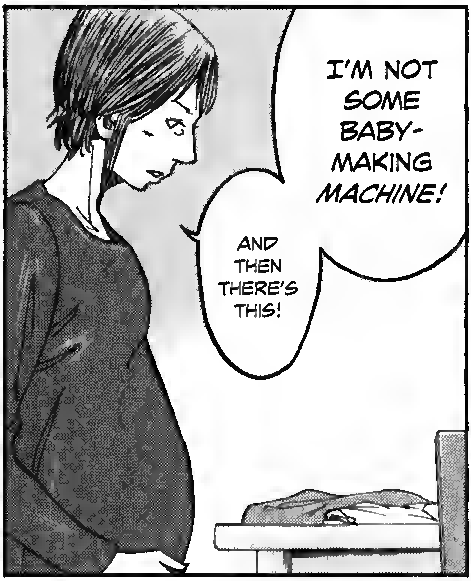
PLEASE, DR. SHINOMIYA, PLEASE SAVE MY BABY!
DR. SHINO-MIYA!
……
手術中
BLOOD PRESSURE IS FALLING!
ピッ
ピッ
BLOOD LOSS IS OVER 4000 ML!
1000
HR
140
50
0
PATIENT'S GOING INTO CARDIAC ARREST!

GASP
GASP
GASP

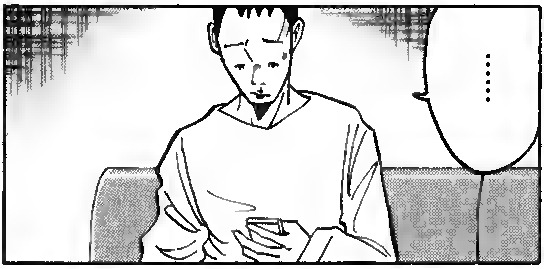
201
KIMURA
IT'S FINE, MOM!
SORRY TO DROP IN SO SUDDENLY.
YOU'RE WELCOME ANY TIME.
OH, NO...
IT'S FINE, REALLY!
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, NORIKO-SAN.
I'LL COME, TOO.
THEN I'LL SEE YOU OFF DOWNSTAIRS.
I'LL WALK YOU TO THE STATION.
OH, I CAN WALK BACK ON MY OWN JUST FINE.

IT'S REALLY NO BIG DEAL.
REALLY, I'M FINE.
I WOULDN'T WANT YOU OVEREXERTING YOURSELF, NORIKO-SAN.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
.....
BUT THINK ABOUT THE STRESS YOU'RE PUTTING ON YOUR BABY!
YOU MIGHT BE ALRIGHT,
IT'S OUR FAMILY'S FIRST, AFTER ALL.
.....
YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF RIGHT NOW.
YOU HAVE TO GIVE BIRTH TO A HEALTHY GRAND-CHILD.

WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS, SHOWING UP OUT OF NOWHERE AND TELLING ME THAT?


I'M NOT SOME BABY-MAKING *MACHINE!*
AND THEN THERE'S THIS!

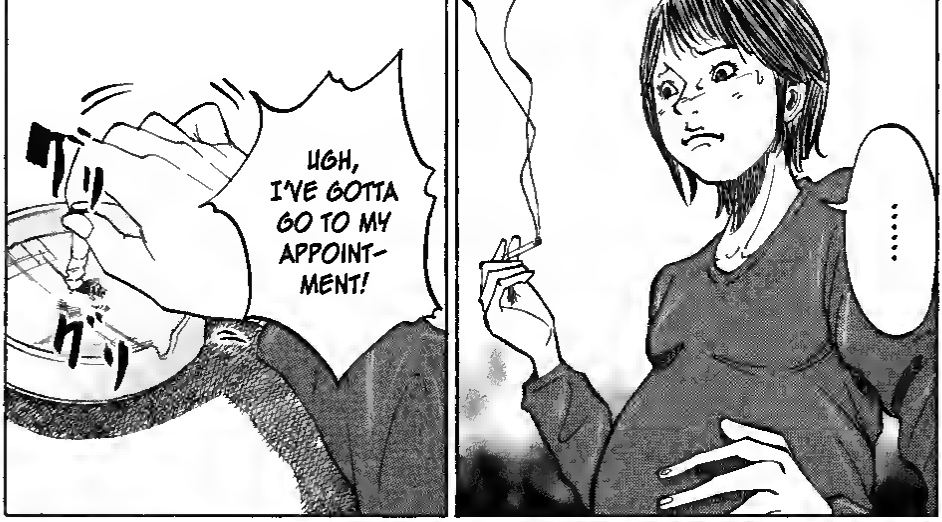
MY MOM DIDN'T MEAN IT THAT WAY...


.....

LOOK AT ALL THIS CRAP SHE GIVES US!
ALL THESE WEIRD BABY CLOTHES THAT ARE WAY TOO BIG!

DAM-MIT!

...I KNOW.
...HEY,
YOU REALLY SHOULD STOP SMOKING.
I KNOW, OKAY?! YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP TELLING ME!
IF I HAVE TO STOP SMOKING,
YOU SHOULD AT LEAST QUIT WITH ME! YOU'RE MY HUSBAND FOR CHRIST'S SAKE!
.....
AND COME ON! YOU'RE STILL SMOKING!
WHY DO I HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT ALL ON MY OWN, HUH?!
HAH
FUCK
GOD, YOU REALLY PISS ME OFF!

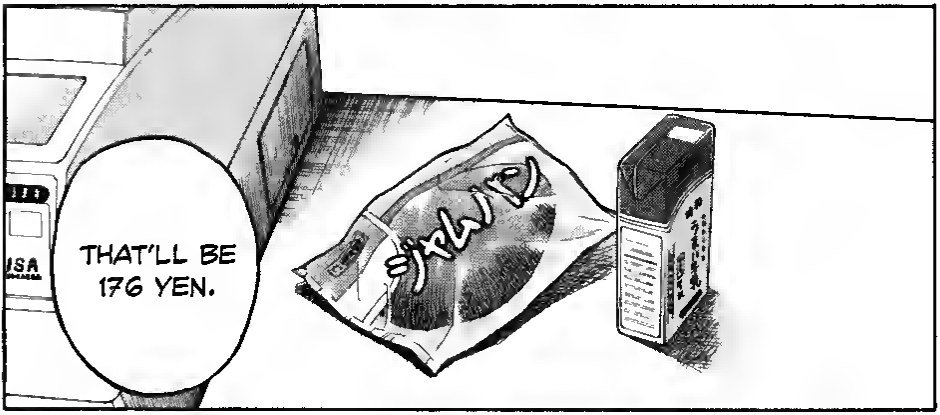

UGH, I'VE GOTTA GO TO MY APPOINT-MENT!
.....

I'M OFF WORK TODAY, SO I'LL COME WITH YOU.
NO! I'M MAD AT YOU, SO JUST STAY HOME, OKAY?!

LAWSON

.....
UGH...
I ALWAYS END UP STOPPING FOR A SMOKE OUTSIDE THIS CONVENIENCE STORE NEXT TO THE HOSPITAL...
...BEFORE EVERY APPOINT-MENT.
KH!
PLOP
HUH?

OW!

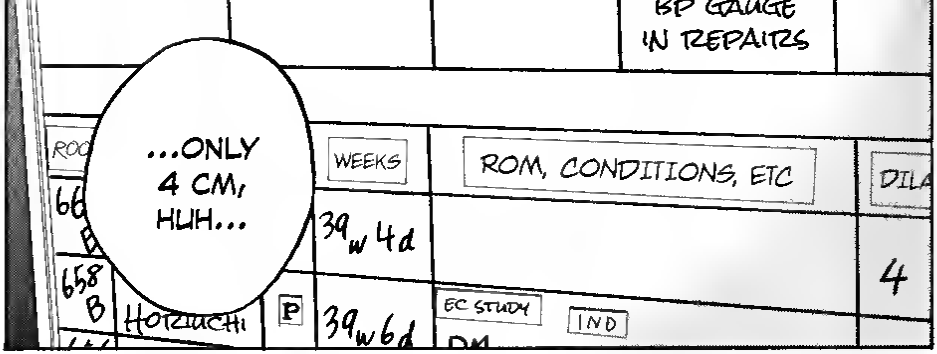

THAT'LL BE 176 YEN.
SPLAT!

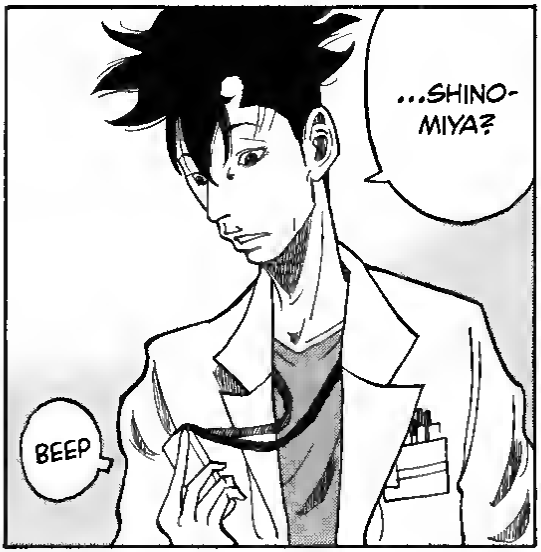
GH...

HAVE A GREAT DAY!
.....
.....

KIMURA-SAN?

ARE YOU OKAY?
MY STOMACH... REALLY HURTS...
CAN I TOUCH IT FOR A SECOND?
THANK YOU.
OW!
LAY DOWN ON YOUR SIDE.
IT'LL BE EASIER ON THE BABY.
IT'S HARD...


BP GAUGE IN REPAIRS
...ONLY 4 CM, HUH...
WEEKS
ROM, CONDITIONS, ETC
DILA
39w 4d
4
HOTZUCHI
P
39w 6d
EC STUDY
IND


...SHINO-MIYA?
BEEP

LOOKS LIKE SHE'S GOT A WHILE TO GO...
YEAH.
RING RING RING

FROM HOW HARD HER UTERUS FEELS...

HELLO?
IT'S ME. I'M OUTSIDE THE CONVENIENCE STORE NEXT TO THE HOSPITAL.
I FOUND NORIKO KIMURA COLLAPSED OUTSIDE WITH ABDOMINAL PAIN.

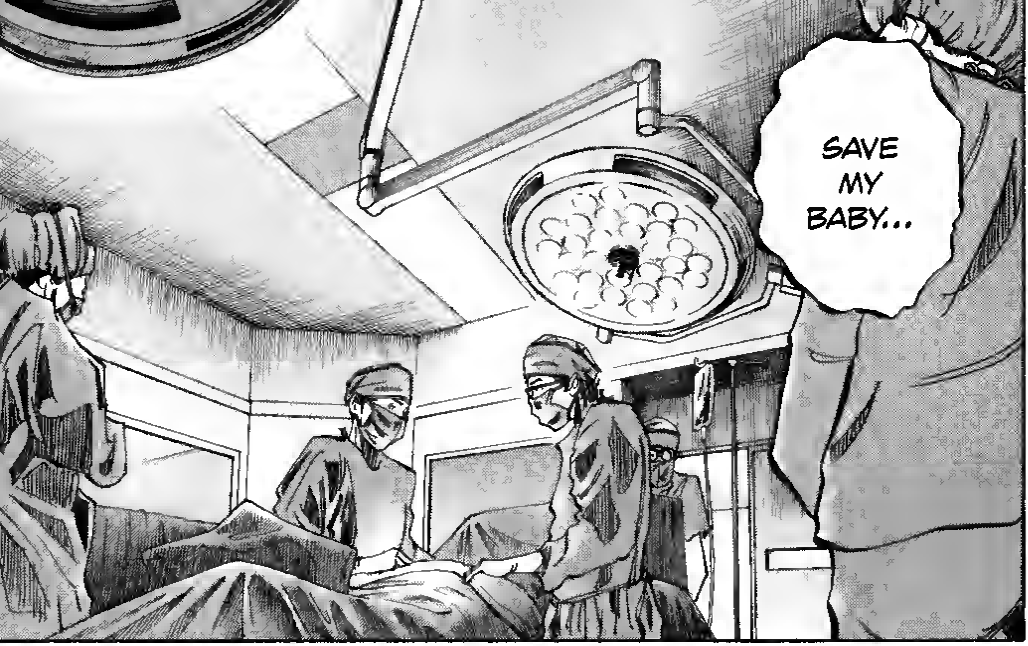
I CALLED A STRETCHER ALREADY.
I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT HER WHEN WE GET HER TO THE OR.
IT'S PROBABLY AN ABRUPTION.
!?
I WANT YOU TO CONTACT THE WARD AND THE NICU.
ABRUPTION...
GOT IT.
PLEASE...
SAVE MY BABY!
DR. SHINOMIYA...

GOD DAM-MIT...
PLEASE, DR. SHINOMIYA, PLEASE SAVE MY BABY!
GH...
...KIMURA-SAN.
IF IT'S REALLY AN ABRUPTION...
I CAN'T GUARANTEE THAT I CAN SAVE YOUR BABY.
PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE WORST.

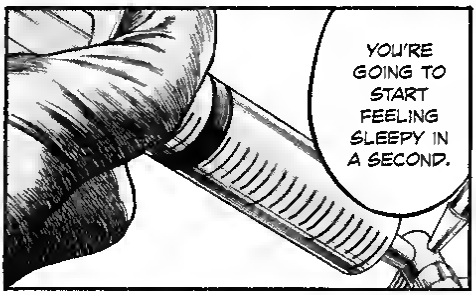
PROBABLE PLACENTAL ABRUPTION!
GET AN ULTRA-SOUND!
HEY, HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON?
WE NEED TO EXAMINE HER FIRST!
GET AN IV STARTED AND RUN A BLOOD PANEL!
SERI-OUSLY?!
KIMURA-SAN COLLAPSED OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL...
IT MIGHT BE AN ABRUP-TION!
SHIT, THAT'S BAD!

SHE'S HAD NO COMPLI-CATIONS THUS FAR!
BLOOD TYPE B RH+!
PATIENT INFO, NORIKO KIMURA, AGE 27,
FETAL WEIGHT ESTIMATED AT 2000G TWO WEEKS AGO!
NO IN-FECTIONS OR HISTORY OF COMPLI-CATIONS,
AND NO REPO-RTED ALLER-GIES!
GESTATION AT 35 WEEKS AND 5 DAYS!
CERVIX IS CLOSED!
THE STATE OF THE HEMATOMA IS STILL UNCLEAR,
BUT THE PLACENTA HAS REALLY HARDENED.
SHINO-MIYA...
SHE'LL PROBABLY GO INTO BRACY-CARDIA.
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
IT'S DEFINITELY AN ABRUP-TION.

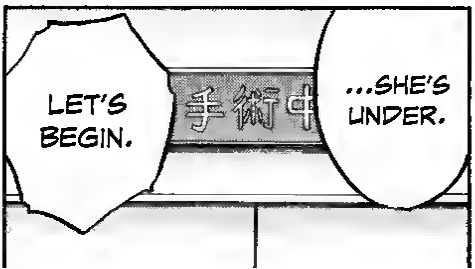
WE HAVE TO HURRY.
BP 110/64, PULSE 98 BPM!
YEAH.
JUST AS WE THOUGHT, YOUR PLACENTA'S DETACHED FROM YOUR UTERUS.
WE'RE GOING TO PERFORM A C-SECTION TO SAVE YOUR BABY.
PREP FOR AN EMERGENCY C-SECTION!
ORDER 6 UNITS OF MAP AND FFP!
CONTACT THE PATIENT'S FAMILY!
KI-MURA-SAN,
PLEASE...


SAVE MY BABY...

DISINFECTING THE AREA.


YOU'RE GOING TO START FEELING SLEEPY IN A SECOND.

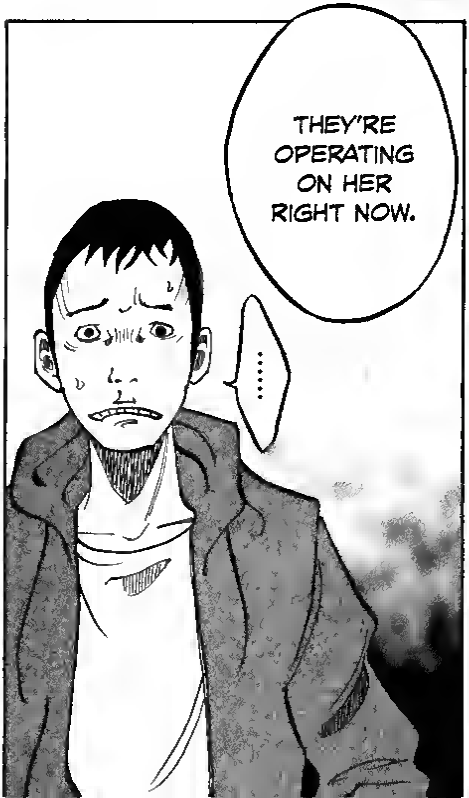
ALRIGHT, KIMURA-SAN, I'M GOING TO PUT YOU TO SLEEP NOW.

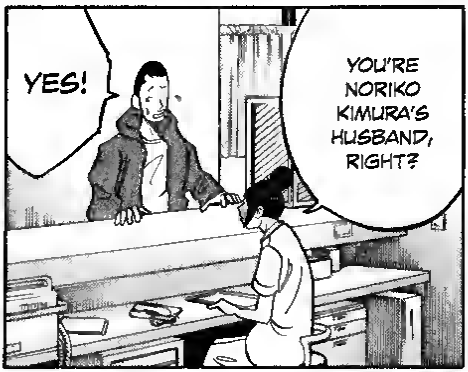

LET'S BEGIN.
手術中
...SHE'S UNDER.

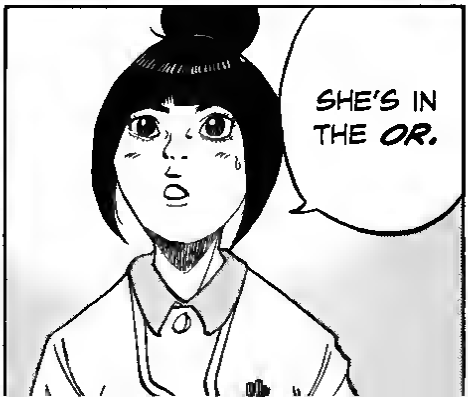
LET'S DO THIS, EVERYONE.
STOPPING SPONTANEOUS RESPIRATION.
INTUBATING NOW.

I-I'M MR. KIMURA, I JUST GOT A CALL...

MY WIFE'S...
IS MY WIFE ALRIGHT?!

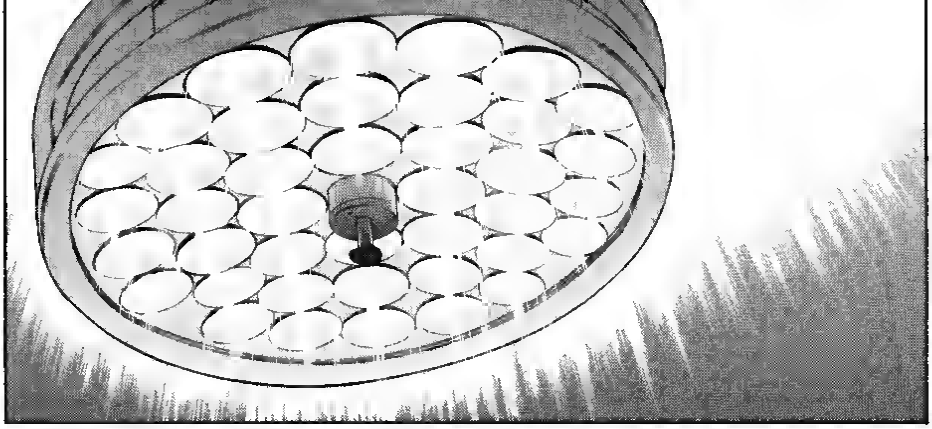

THEY'RE OPERATING ON HER RIGHT NOW.
.....

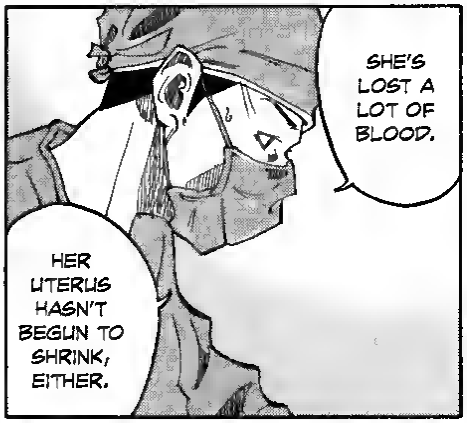

YES!
YOU'RE NORIKO KIMURA'S HUSBAND, RIGHT?

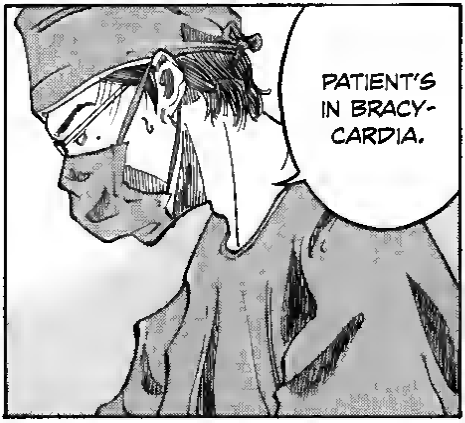

SHE'S IN THE OR.

I'VE GOT THE BABY.

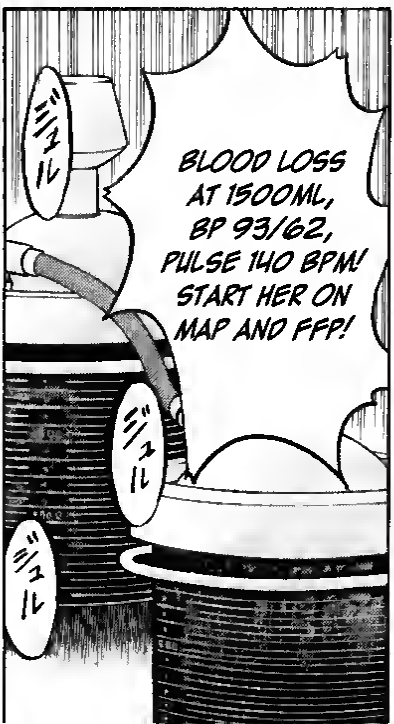
TWITCH
WAHH!
WAHH!
IT'S CRYING...
WAHH!
WAHH!
……
チラ
……
チラ

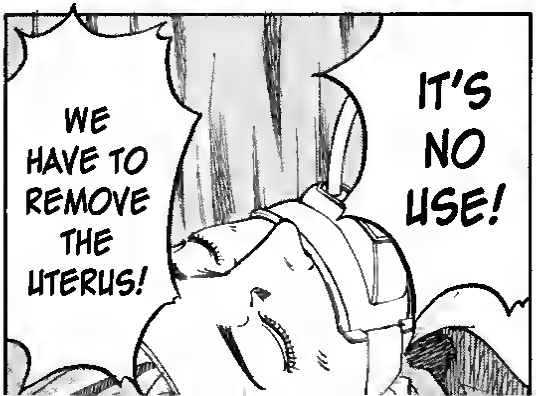



SHE'S LOST A LOT OF BLOOD.
HER UTERUS HASN'T BEGUN TO SHRINK, EITHER.

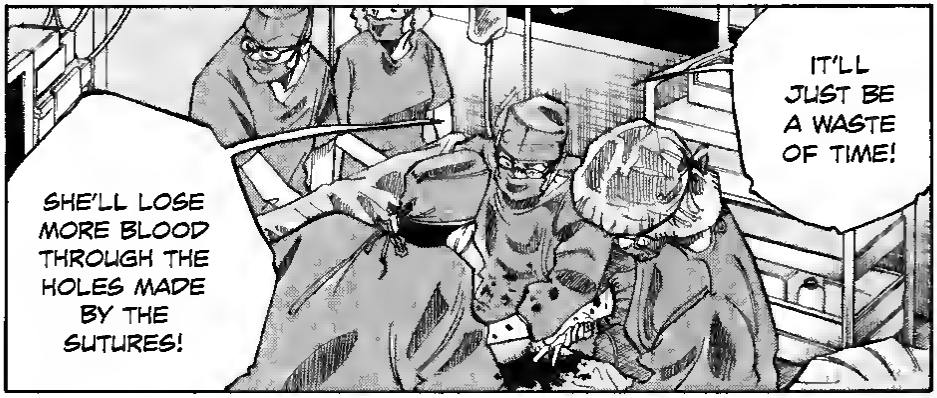

PATIENT'S IN BRACY-CARDIA.

!?
ゴッ!


ピッ
BLOOD LOSS AT 1500ML, BP 93/62, PULSE 140 BPM! START HER ON MAP AND FFP!
ピッ
ピッ

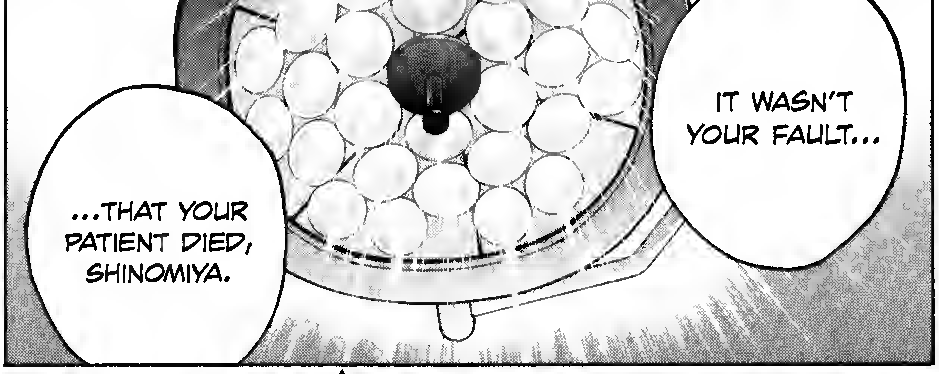

IT'S NO USE!
WE HAVE TO REMOVE THE UTERUS!

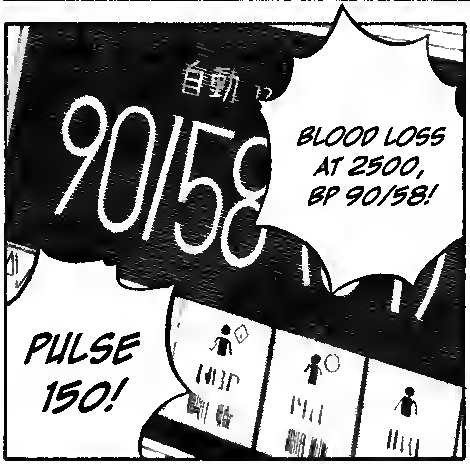
NO,
WE'LL USE THE B-LYNCH SUTURE.
WH...


IT'LL JUST BE A WASTE OF TIME!
SHE'LL LOSE MORE BLOOD THROUGH THE HOLES MADE BY THE SUTURES!

JUST THE OPPOSITE.
IT'LL GIVE US MORE TIME TO GIVE HER THE TRANS-FUSIONS.
IF EVERY-THING GOES WELL,
WE CAN SAVE HER UTERUS.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN WHAT HAPPENED TO MY PATIENT 5 YEARS AGO?
YOU TRIED TO SAVE THAT PATIENT'S UTERUS, RIGHT?
IF I'D REMOVED IT...
...I MIGHT'VE BEEN ABLE TO SAVE HER!
NOBODY CAN KNOW THAT FOR SURE.
THAT'S WHY SHE DIED!
ジジェル
ジジェル


IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT...
...THAT YOUR PATIENT DIED, SHINOMIYA.

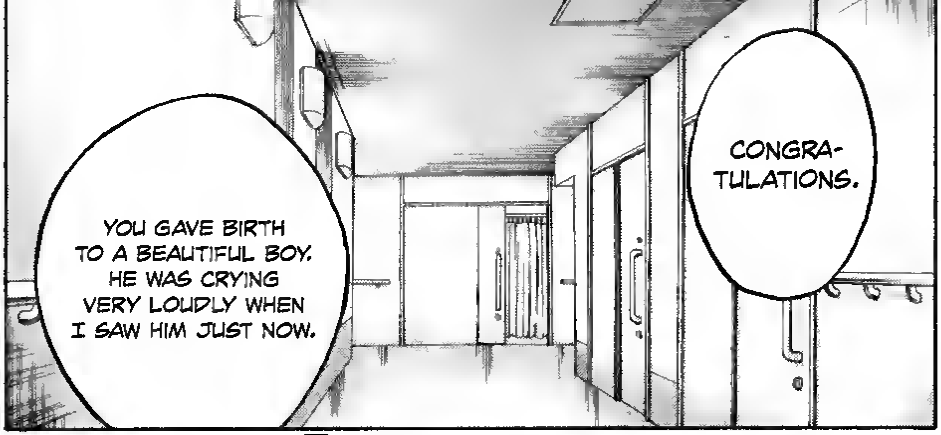

自動
90/58
BLOOD LOSS AT 2500, BP 90/58!
PULSE 150!

SAKU-RA!

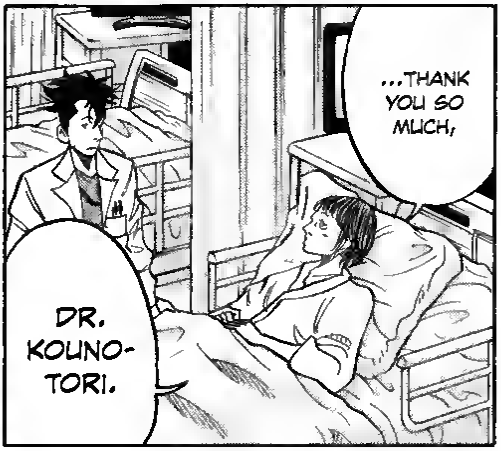
IT'S NO USE!
WE HAVE TO PERFORM A HYSTER-ECTOMY!

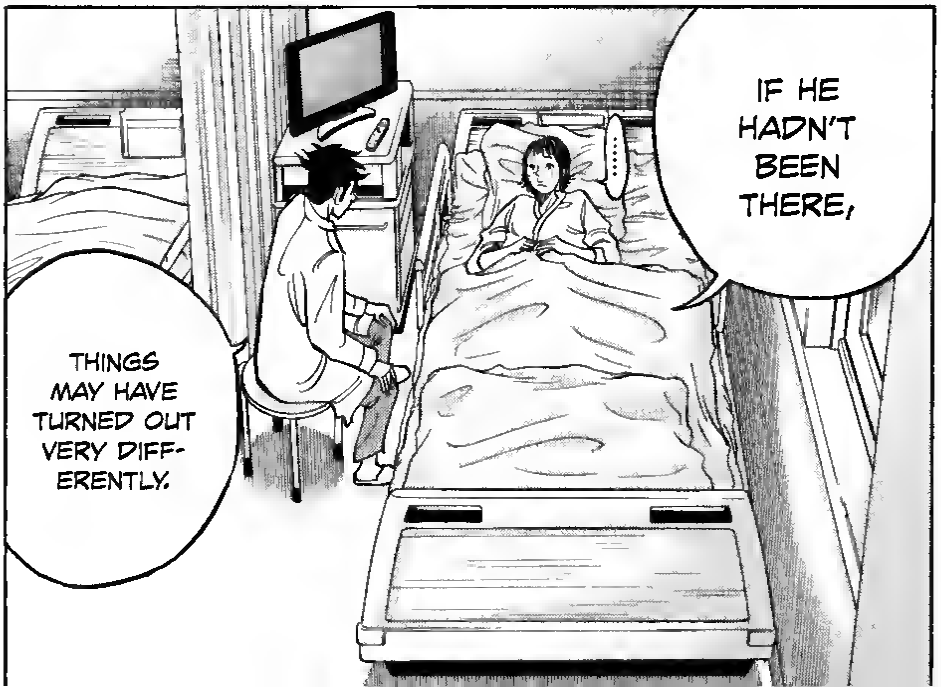
NO, WE'LL TRY B-LYNCH.
ピッ
ピッ
BP DROP-PING!

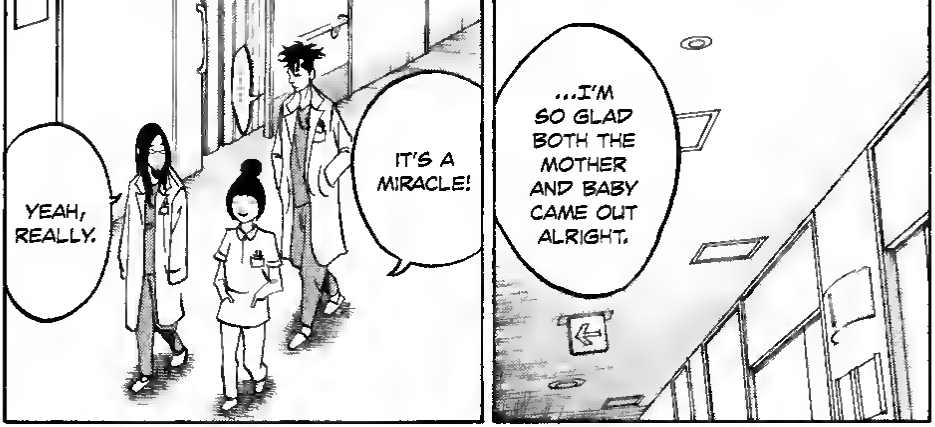
THIS ISN'T YOUR PATIENT FROM FIVE YEARS AGO, SHINOMIYA.
WE CAN STILL SAVE...
...KIMURA-SAN'S UTERUS.


CONGRA-
TULATIONS.
YOU GAVE BIRTH TO A BEAUTIFUL BOY. HE WAS CRYING VERY LOUDLY WHEN I SAW HIM JUST NOW.

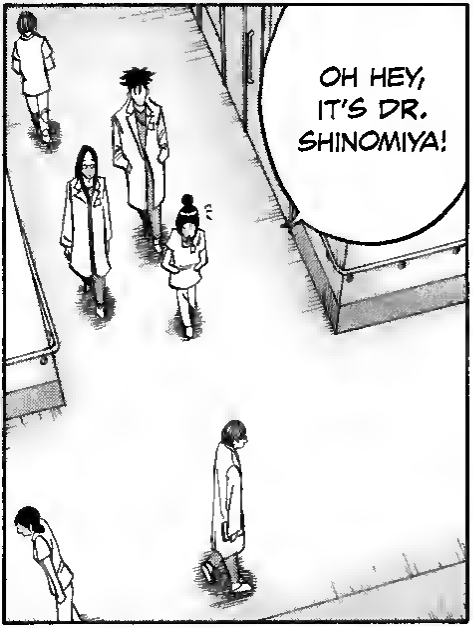
DR. SHINOMIYA'S THE ONE YOU SHOULD BE THANKING.
.....

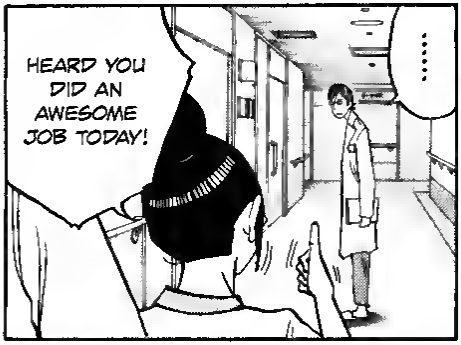

...THANK YOU SO MUCH,
DR. KOUNO-TORI.


IF HE HADN'T BEEN THERE,
THINGS MAY HAVE TURNED OUT VERY DIFF-ERENTLY.


IT'S A MIRACLE!
YEAH, REALLY.
...I'M SO GLAD BOTH THE MOTHER AND BABY CAME OUT ALRIGHT.

HEY, DR. SHINOMIYA!

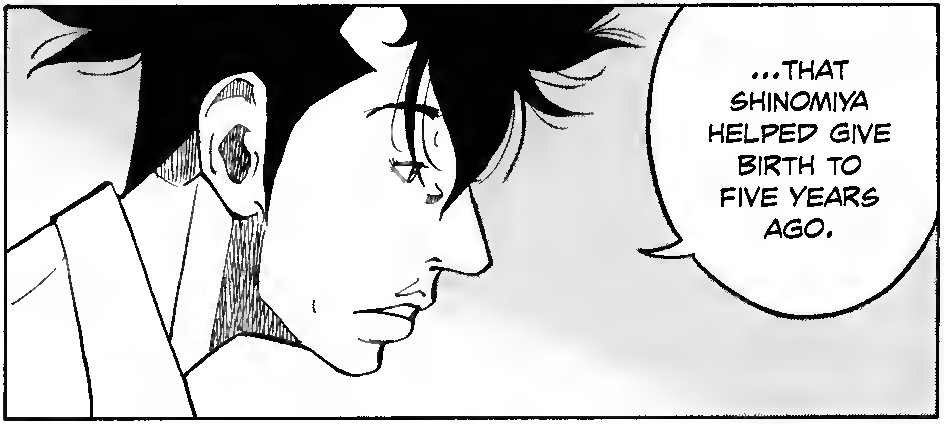

OH HEY, IT'S DR. SHINOMIYA!


HEARD YOU DID AN AWESOME JOB TODAY!
.....

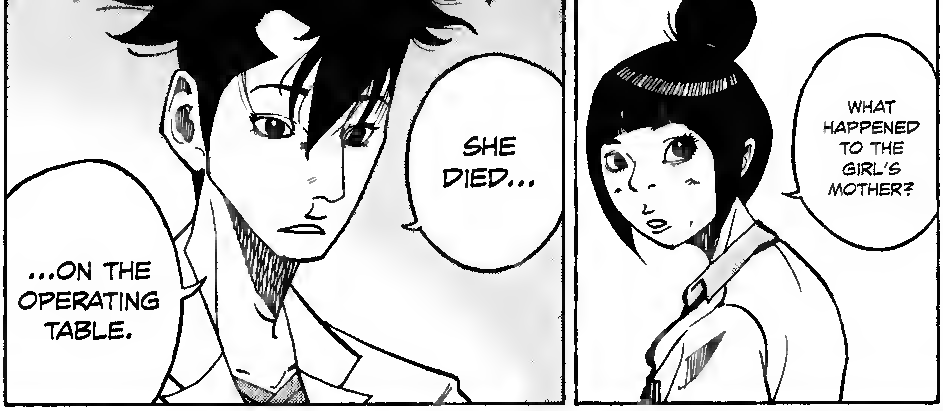
THAT'S WEIRD...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM? ISN'T HE HAPPY?

HEY! DON'T IGNORE ME!
スタスタ

IN THE BACK CORNER OF THE PEDIATRICS WARD,
THERE'S A LITTLE GIRL WITH SEVERE CEREBRAL PALSY...
WHY IS DR. SHINOMIYA GOING TOWARDS PEDIATRICS?
I DUN-NO.
.....


...THAT SHINOMIYA HELPED GIVE BIRTH TO FIVE YEARS AGO.

NOBODY COMES TO VISIT HER,
SO SHINOMIYA GOES TO SEE HER EVERY DAY.
HUH...?


WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GIRL'S MOTHER?
SHE DIED...
...ON THE OPERATING TABLE.

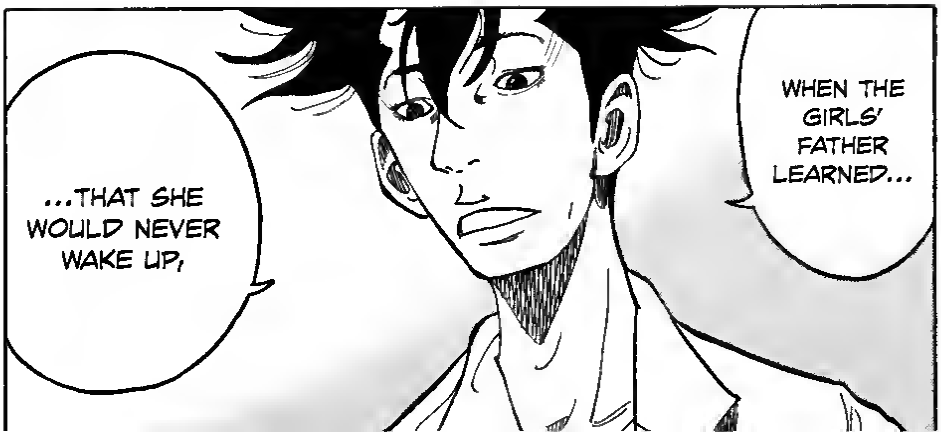
SHINOMIYA WAS HER OBSTETRICIAN FOR HER FIRST PREGNANCY.
HE JUST DOESN'T WANT TO LISTEN TO ME!
SHE REALLY TRUSTED HIM.
YOU SURE HAVE GOTTEN BIG.

SHINOMIYA TOLD HER TO QUIT.
PLEASE. I'LL BE FINE! I SMOKED WHEN I WAS PREGNANT WITH HIM.
BUT SHE COULDN'T QUIT SMOKING.
YOU NEED TO STOP SMOKING. IT COULD HAVE VERY SCARY CONSEQUENCES.
BUT HE COULDN'T GET HER TO STOP.
Alright.
I'LL TRY TO CUT DOWN ON IT. OKAY?

SHE HAD A PLACENTAL ABRUPTION.
THEN, AT 32 WEEKS,
SHE LOST TOO MUCH BLOOD DURING THE C-SECTION...
HR
140
50
0
THE BABY GIRL WAS BORN WITH SEVERE CEREBRAL PALSY,
...AND DIED ON THE OPERATING TABLE.

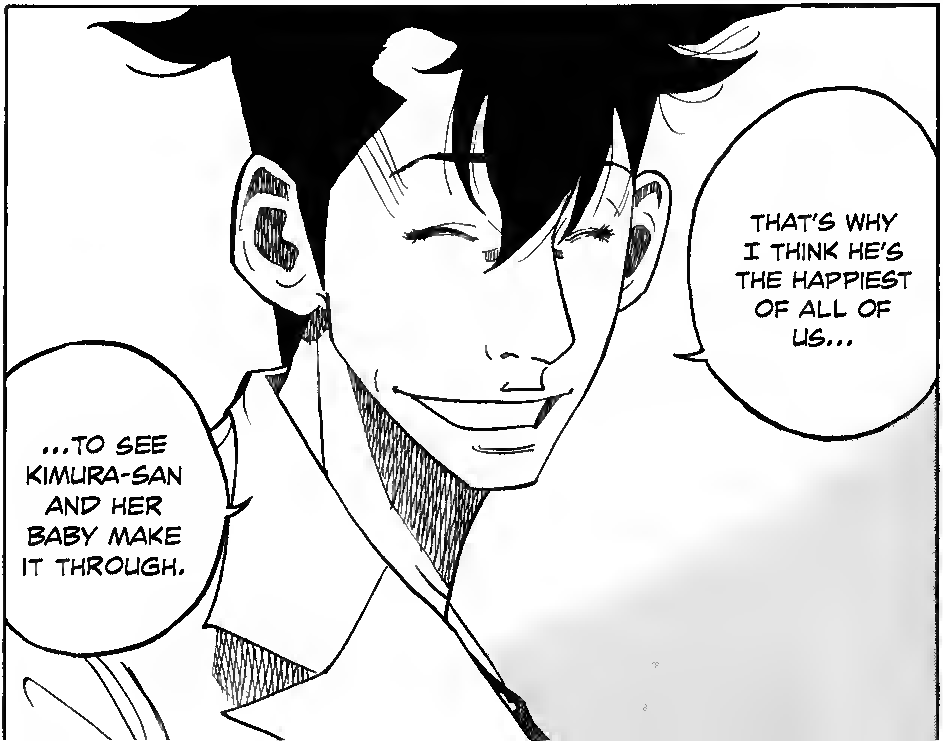
AND NEVER AWOKE FROM A VEGETATIVE STATE.
I SHOULD HAVE...
...FORCED HER TO STOP SMOKING SOMEHOW...
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T...
...BE SO KIND TO PATIENTS AFTER ALL...
SHINO-MIYA...
GOD DAM-MIT...

I'D RATHER MY PATIENTS HATE ME...
...IF IT MEANS I NEVER HAVE TO FEEL LIKE THIS EVER AGAIN...


WHEN THE GIRLS' FATHER LEARNED...
...THAT SHE WOULD NEVER WAKE UP,

SHINO-MIYA...
.....
.....
HE DROPPED ALL CONTACT WITH THE HOSPITAL.

ALL THE TERRIBLE THINGS TO HAPPEN TO THEIR FAMILY.
...STILL BELIEVES HE CAUSED...


...TO SEE KIMURA-SAN AND HER BABY MAKE IT THROUGH.
THAT'S WHY I THINK HE'S THE HAPPIEST OF ALL OF US...

KSSH
KSH

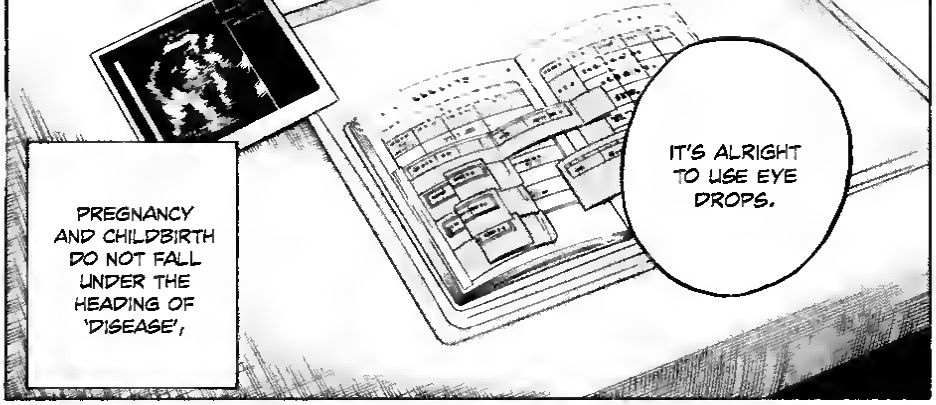
...HEY THERE.

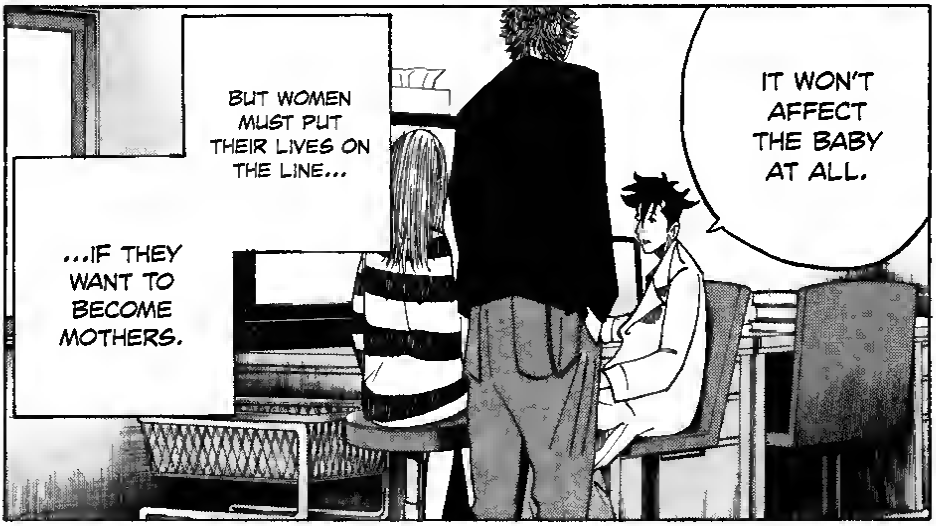
SO SOMETHING GOOD HAPPENED TODAY...
KSHH
KSH

When I'm having trouble getting storyboards done I pick up my son's ukelele and play some Eikichi Yazawa...

TRACK 9

OVERSEAS BIRTH


PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH DO NOT FALL UNDER THE HEADING OF 'DISEASE',
IT'S ALRIGHT TO USE EYE DROPS.

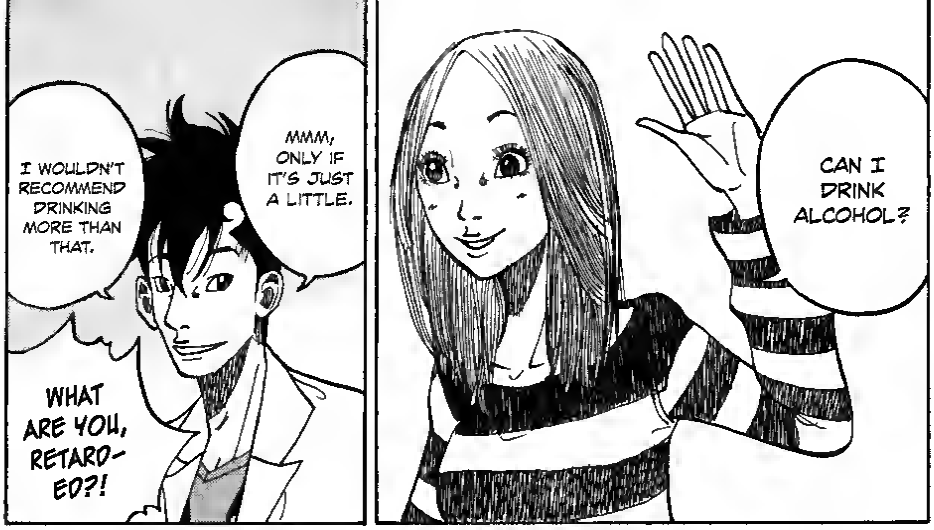

BUT WOMEN MUST PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE...
...IF THEY WANT TO BECOME MOTHERS.
IT WON'T AFFECT THE BABY AT ALL.

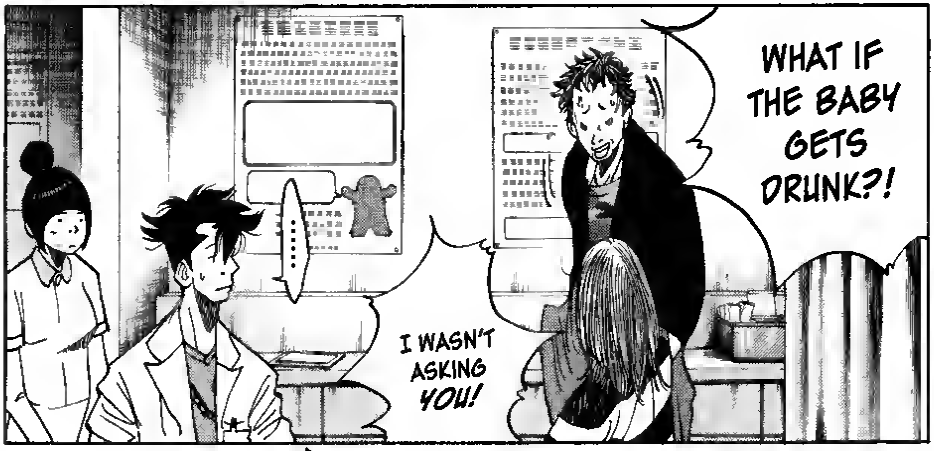
UM... ONE MORE THING, DOC...

THE ONLY THING THAT SOON-TO-BE FATHERS CAN DO...
THANK GOD, I WAS SO WORRIED 'BOUT THAT, I COULD HARDLY SLEEP.

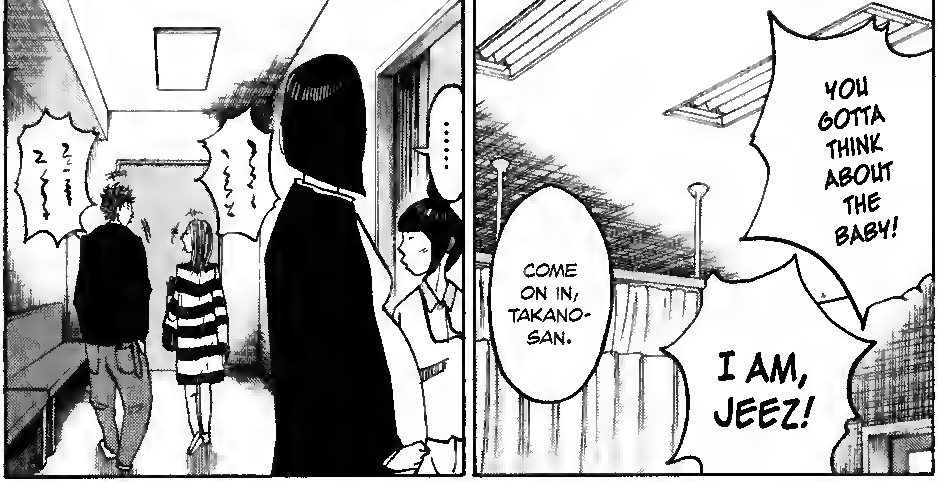
...IS WORRY.
WHAT ABOUT CONTACT LENS FLUID?! IS THAT OKAY?! SHE USES SOFT SOFT BRAND!
HUH...?

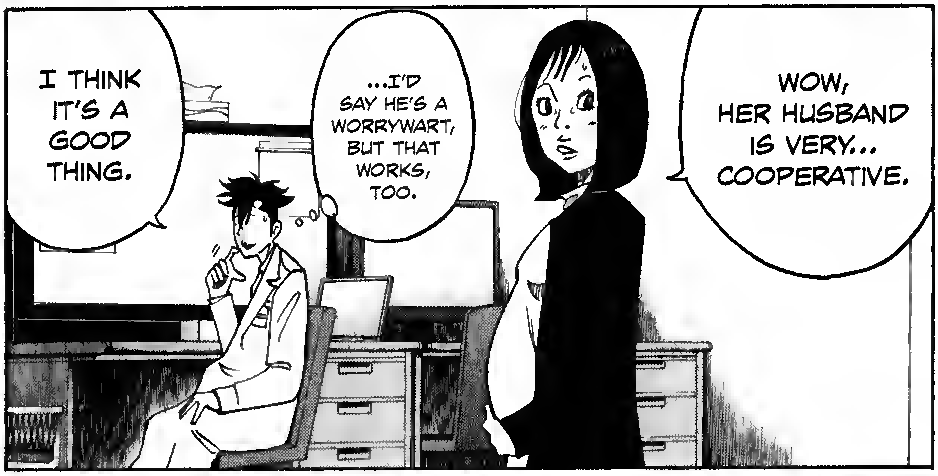
EXCUSE ME, DR. KOUNO-TORI?
LIKE IT'S STILL SIX MONTHS TILL SHE'S DUE, BUT...
I MEAN... I JUST GET SO WORKED UP 'BOUT THIS STUFF,
PERSONA GENERAL

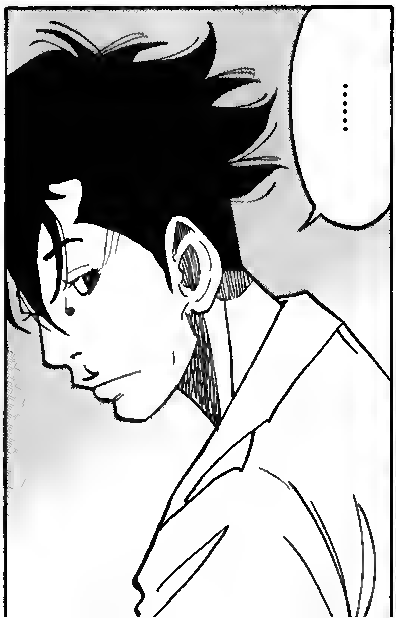

CAN I DRINK ALCOHOL?
MMM, ONLY IF IT'S JUST A LITTLE.
I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND DRINKING MORE THAN THAT.
WHAT ARE YOU, RETARDED?!


WHAT IF THE BABY GETS DRUNK?!
I WASN'T ASKING YOU!

YOU'RE PREGNANT! THE HELL ARE YOU THINKING, GETTING DRUNK?!
EXCUSE ME?!
WILL DO.
KOMATSU-SAN, PLEASE CALL IN THE NEXT PATIENT.


……
COME ON IN, TAKANO-SAN.
YOU GOTTA THINK ABOUT THE BABY!
I AM, JEEZ!

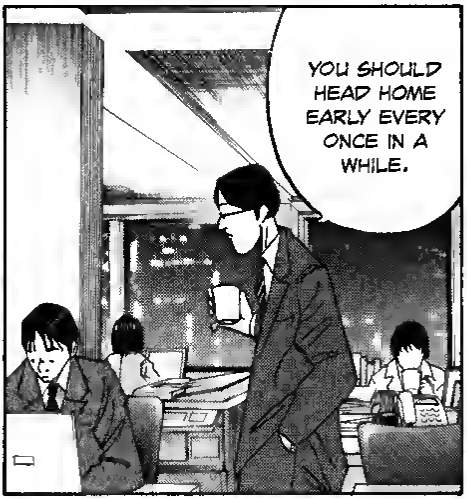

I THINK IT'S A GOOD THING.
...I'D SAY HE'S A WORRYWART, BUT THAT WORKS, TOO.
WOW, HER HUSBAND IS VERY... COOPERATIVE.

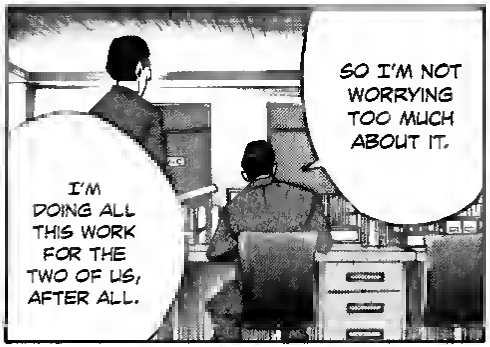

……

I'M KIND OF JEALOUS...

大共生命
HEY, TAKANO.
YOUR WIFE'S GONNA HAVE HER BABY SOON, RIGHT?

C'MON, HOW DO YOU EXPECT ME TO LEAVE EARLY WHEN WE'RE SO BUSY AROUND HERE?


YOU SHOULD HEAD HOME EARLY EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

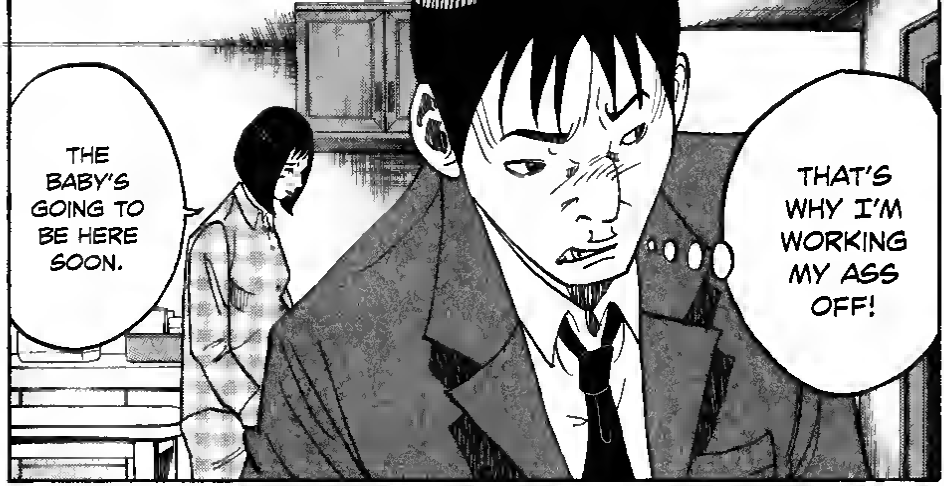

SO I'M NOT WORRYING TOO MUCH ABOUT IT.
I'M DOING ALL THIS WORK FOR THE TWO OF US, AFTER ALL.

AND AS A MAN, THERE'S NOT MUCH I CAN DO TO HELP OUT.

WELL, THEY DO SAY A MAN BECOMES A FATHER THE SECOND HE LAYS EYES ON HIS BABY.
THAT MUST BE IT.

MM-HM.
YOU'RE STILL UP?
WEL-COME BACK.
AHH, YEAH, A COUPLE COWORKERS WANTED TO GRAB A DRINK.
DID YOU GO OUT DRINKING?
YAWN
HEE HEE, WHEN I WAS THERE, I SAW THIS COUPLE THAT...
OH, THAT'S GOOD!
I SAW THE DOCTOR TODAY. HE SAYS THE BABY'S DOING GREAT.
I'M GONNA HEAD TO BED.
AH, SORRY,

YOU'RE OUT LATE EVERY NIGHT WITH YOUR COWORKERS.
I'LL LISTEN TO YOUR STORY TOMORROW, OKAY?
.....
YOU NEVER LISTEN TO ME.
YOU NEVER COME WITH ME TO SEE THE DOCTOR, EITHER.
I WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE BABY WITH YOU, BUT YOU NEVER LISTEN!
ARE YOU EVEN READY TO BE A DAD?!
...I AM!


THE BABY'S GOING TO BE HERE SOON.
THAT'S WHY I'M WORKING MY ASS OFF!

I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF EVERY-THING...
ALL BY MYSELF...

CHRIST, WHAT A PAIN IN MY...
バ...!
WE'LL TALK ABOUT THIS NEXT TIME I'VE GOT A DAY OFF.
...OKAY, OKAY.
THE BABY NEEDS REST, TOO.
LET'S SLEEP ON IT FOR TONIGHT, OKAY?

GASP
GASP
HUH?!
GASP
GASP

HEY!
H...

GASP
GASP
GASP
ARE YOU OKAY?!

UGH, IT'S SO QUIET TONIGHT!

AGAIN WITH THE INSTANT YAKISOBA, DR. KOUNO-TORI?
ジョロロ

A QUIET SHIFT IS A GOOD THING,
YOU KNOW.

RING RING

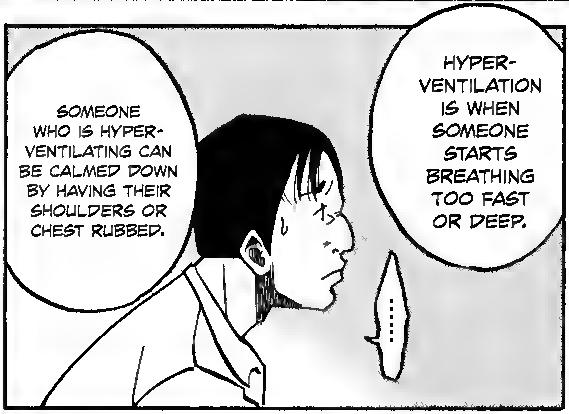
HEY, I LIKE WHAT I LIKE.

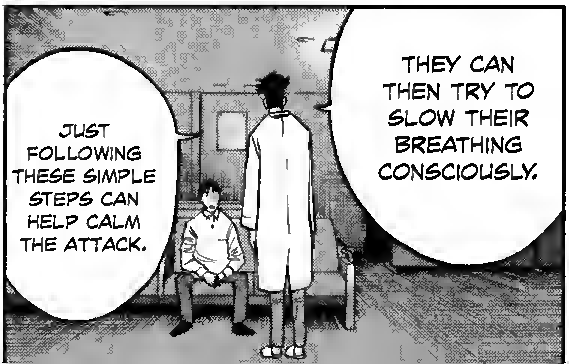
RING RING

TAKANO-SAN?
DOC-TOR!
ピーポー
ピーポー
YOUR WIFE AND YOUR BABY...
...ARE DOING WELL.
IS SHE... ARE THEY ALRIGHT?!
YOUR WIFE WAS HYPER-VENTILATING.
IT HAPPENS WHEN SOMEONE GETS WORKED UP OR EXCITED...
...AND CAN'T BREATHE NORM-ALLY.
THANK GOD...
THEY'RE ALRIGHT.

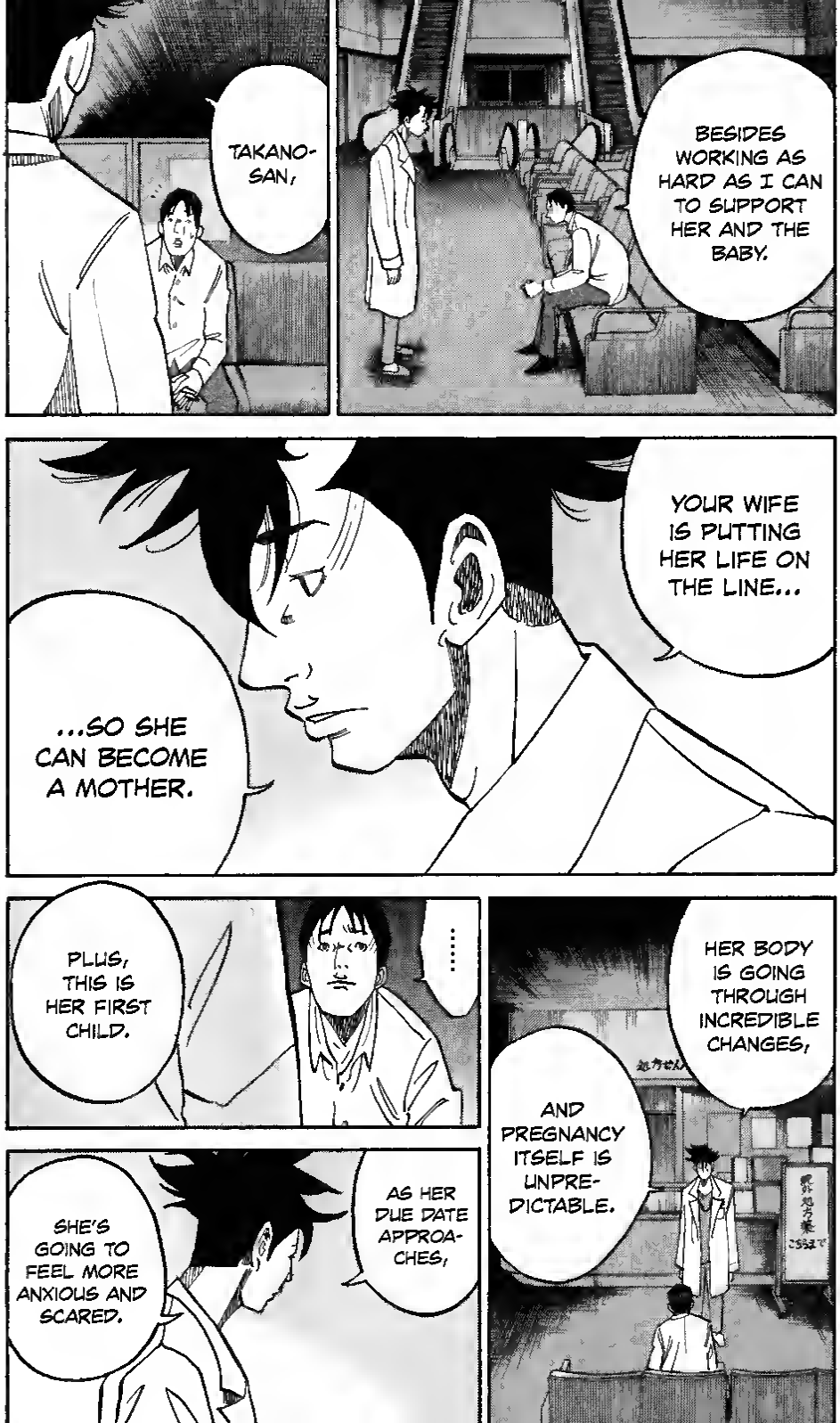
I BELIEVE HER *HEART* IS IN DANGER.
HOWEVER, WHILE YOUR WIFE'S BODY MAY BE ALRIGHT,

HOWEVER, THE CAUSE OF HYPER-VENTILATION...

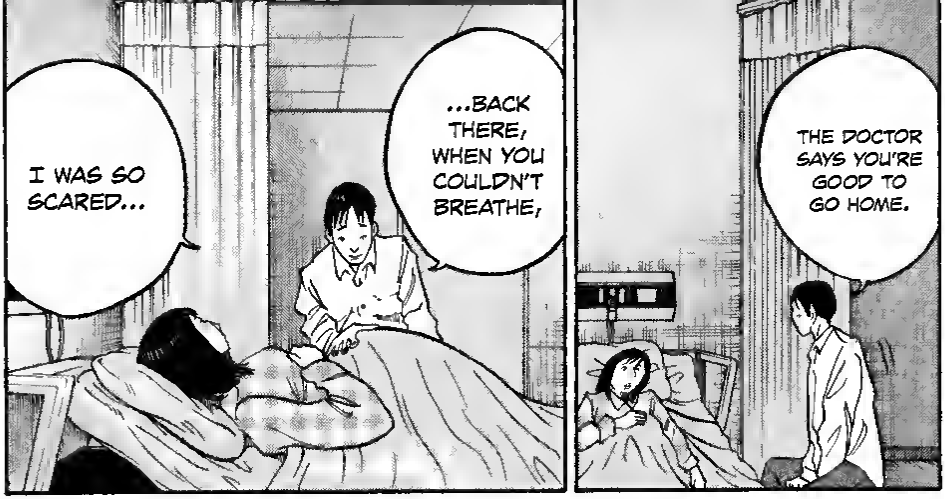

HYPER-VENTILATION IS WHEN SOMEONE STARTS BREATHING TOO FAST OR DEEP.
SOMEONE WHO IS HYPER-VENTILATING CAN BE CALMED DOWN BY HAVING THEIR SHOULDERS OR CHEST RUBBED.

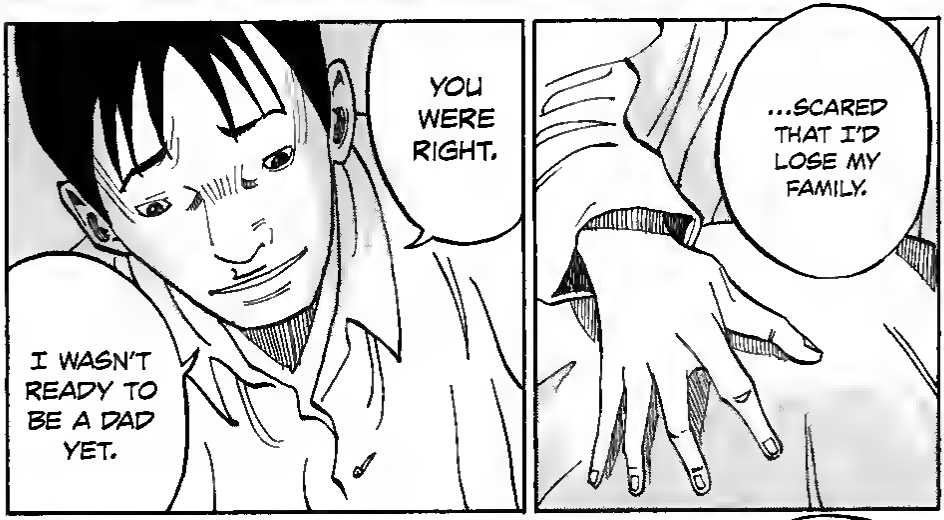

THEY CAN THEN TRY TO SLOW THEIR BREATHING CONSCIOUSLY.
JUST FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE STEPS CAN HELP CALM THE ATTACK.

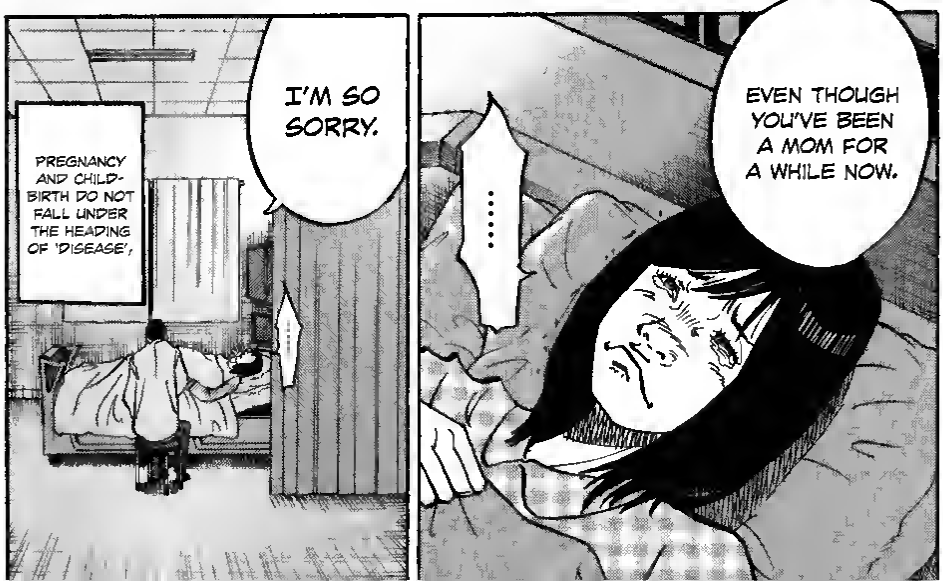
IT'S NOT UNCOMMON FOR PREGNANT WOMEN...
TO BECOME STRESSED OUT AND HYPER-VENTILATE.
...IS OFTEN AN OUTSIDE SOURCE...
...OF MENTAL STRESS AND ANXIETY.
ESPECIALLY IF THEIR PARTNER...
...IS UN-SUPPORTIVE.
BUT I'M A MAN. THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO FOR HER...
...YOU'RE RIGHT.
I LET MY WIFE DEAL WITH ALL THE PREGNANCY STUFF.


TAKANO-SAN,
BESIDES WORKING AS HARD AS I CAN TO SUPPORT HER AND THE BABY.
YOUR WIFE IS PUTTING HER LIFE ON THE LINE...
...SO SHE CAN BECOME A MOTHER.
PLUS, THIS IS HER FIRST CHILD.
.....
HER BODY IS GOING THROUGH INCREDIBLE CHANGES,
AND PREGNANCY ITSELF IS UNPRE-DICTABLE.
AS HER DUE DATE APPROA-CHES,
SHE'S GOING TO FEEL MORE ANXIOUS AND SCARED.

THE MOST YOU CAN DO IS WORRY.
グッ
……
YOU'RE RIGHT.
MEN PLAY A VERY SMALL ROLE IN GIVING BIRTH.
……
BUT IF YOU TELL YOUR WIFE ABOUT HOW WORRIED YOU ARE,
THAT YOU'RE READY TO BE A FATHER.
……
I'M SURE SHE'LL UNDER-STAND...
SWEETIE!
...HOW'RE YOU FEELING?


I WAS SO SCARED...
...BACK THERE, WHEN YOU COULDN'T BREATHE,
THE DOCTOR SAYS YOU'RE GOOD TO GO HOME.

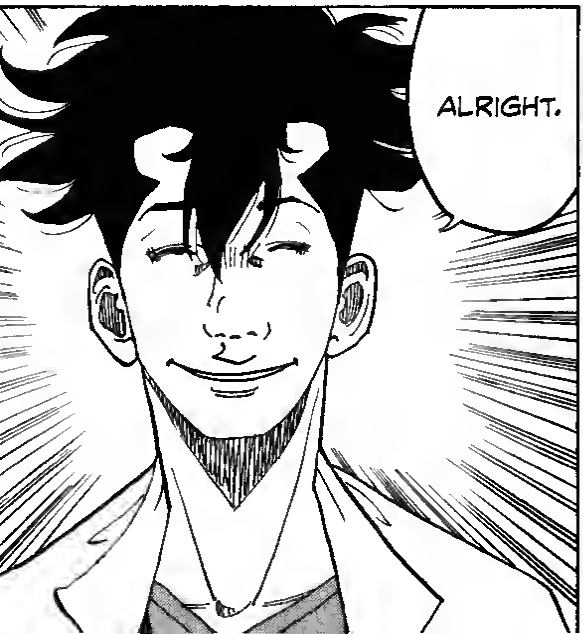

I WASN'T READY TO BE A DAD YET.
YOU WERE RIGHT.
...SCARED THAT I'D LOSE MY FAMILY.

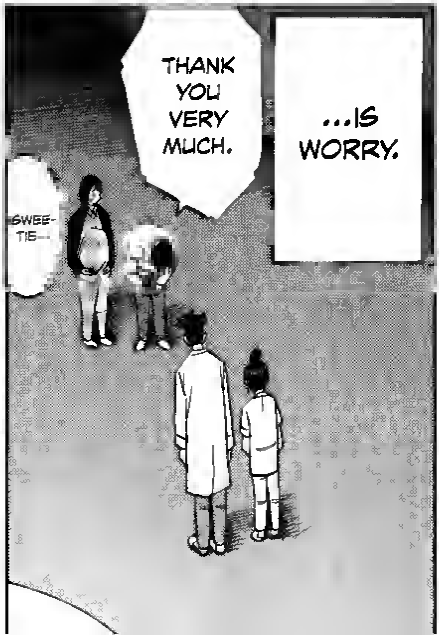

PREGNANCY AND CHILD-BIRTH DO NOT FALL UNDER THE HEADING OF 'DISEASE',
I'M SO SORRY.
.....
EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE BEEN A MOM FOR A WHILE NOW.

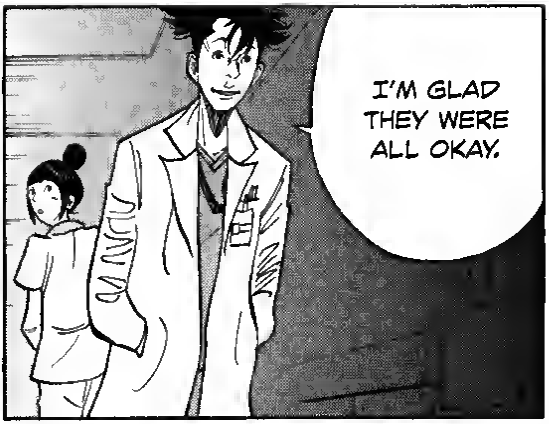
BUT WOMEN MUST PUT THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE...
...THAT WAS A REAL SHOCK.
...IF THEY WANT TO BECOME MOTHERS.

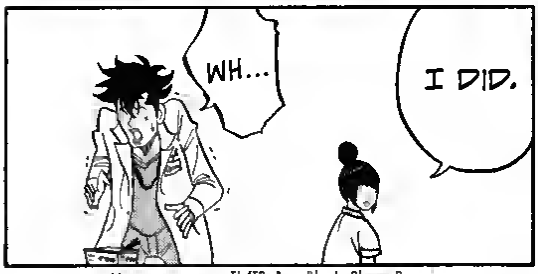
I'LL SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT APP-OINTMENT.
HUH?

DR. KOUNO-TORI.
THE ONLY THING THAT SOON-TO-BE FATHERS CAN DO...

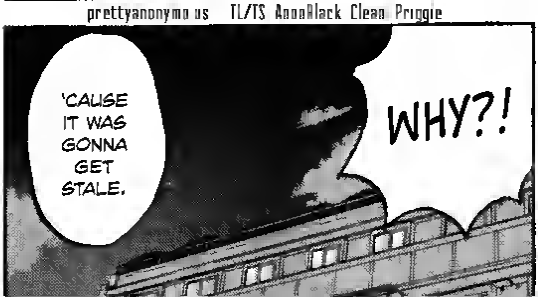

ALRIGHT.


...IS WORRY.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SWEE-TIE—





prettyanonymous TL/TS AnonBlack Clean Priggie

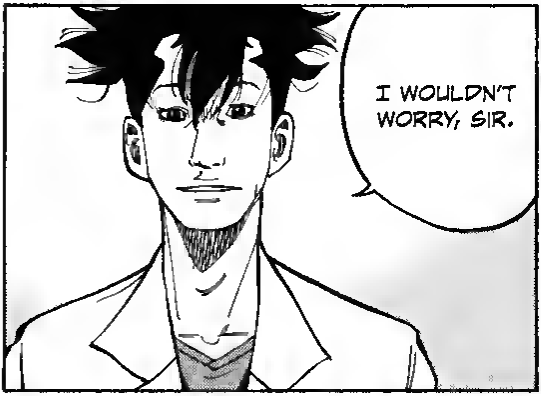


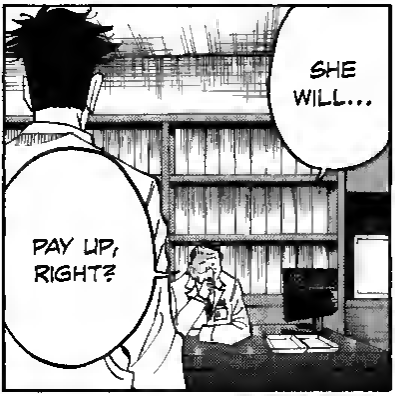
To Be Continued

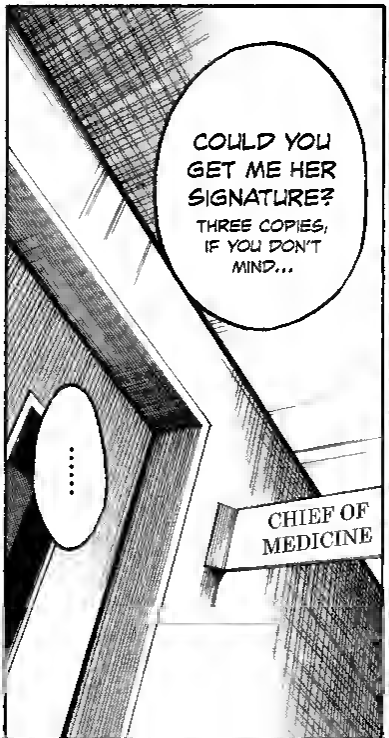
GH...
GAHH!
OH MY GOD!
OH MY GOD,
GAH!
YOU CAN DO IT!
C'MON, PUSH!
PUSH! PUSH!

SHE PERFORMED WITH BABY YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
THAT'S CORRECT.
REALLY, WHAT A SURPRISE.
I NEVER IMAGINED THE FAMOUS JAZZ SINGER ALISA ROURKE WOULD GIVE BIRTH AT OUR HOSPITAL.
CHIEF OF MEDICINE
AHEM!
SO... HOW ARE THEY DOING?
MAN, WISH I COULDA SEEN THAT.
BUT I HAD A BIG DINNER EVENT LAST NIGHT...
ALISA CAN BE DISCHARGED WITHIN FOUR TO FIVE DAYS,
BUT THE BABY WILL MOST LIKELY HAVE TO STAY IN THE NICU FOR AT LEAST TWO MONTHS.

TWO MONTHS...
THAT'S GOING TO COST HER A LOT...


I WOULDN'T WORRY, SIR.

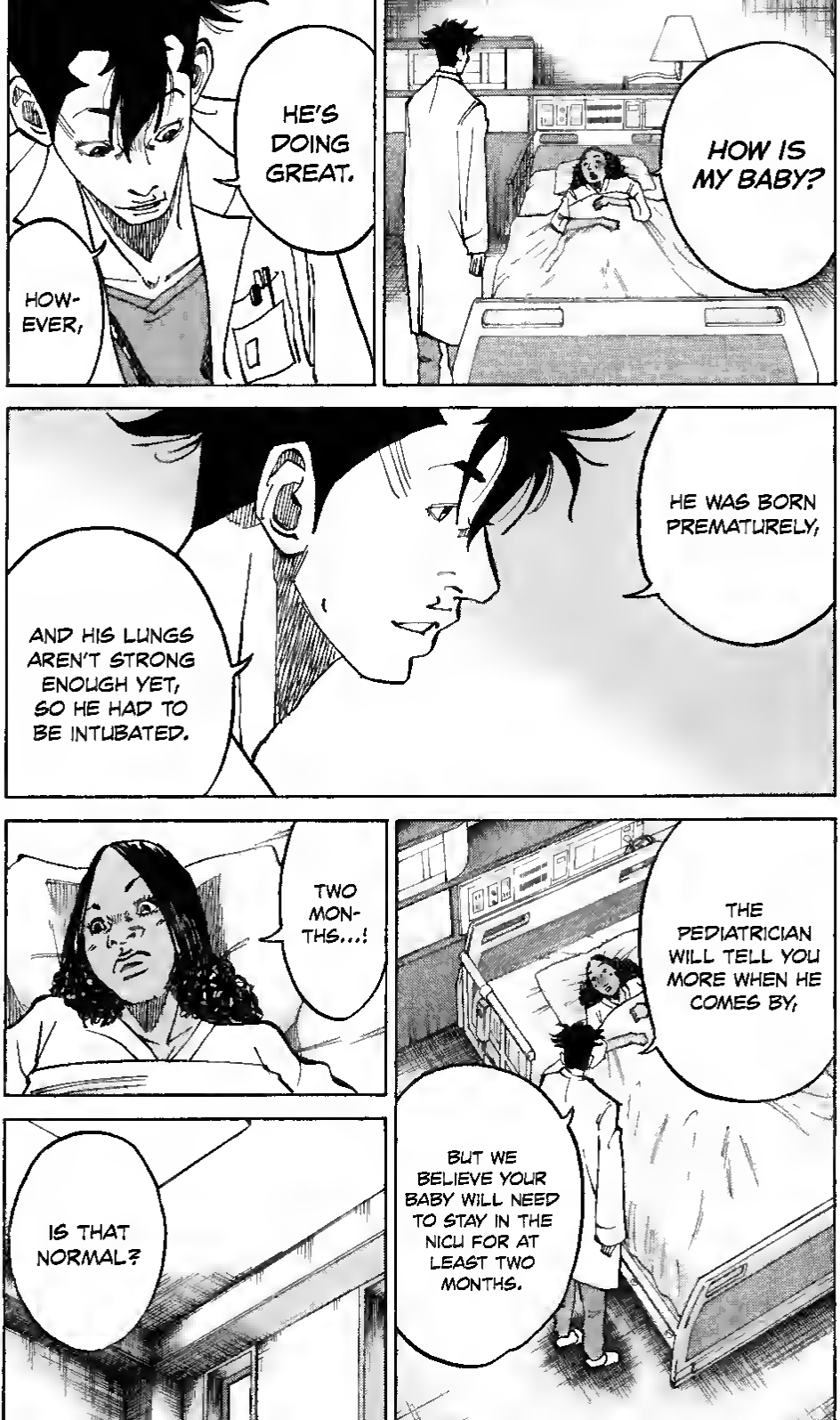

SHE WILL...
PAY UP, RIGHT?

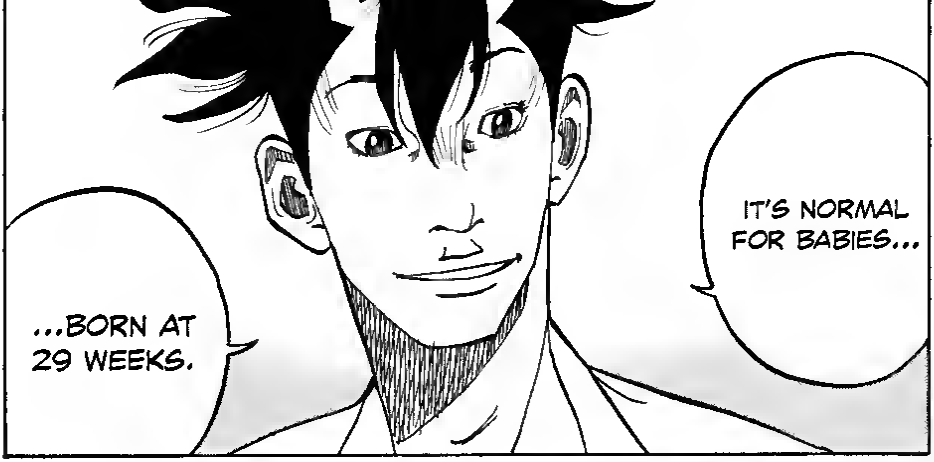

COULD YOU GET ME HER SIGNATURE?
THREE COPIES, IF YOU DON'T MIND...
.....
CHIEF OF MEDICINE

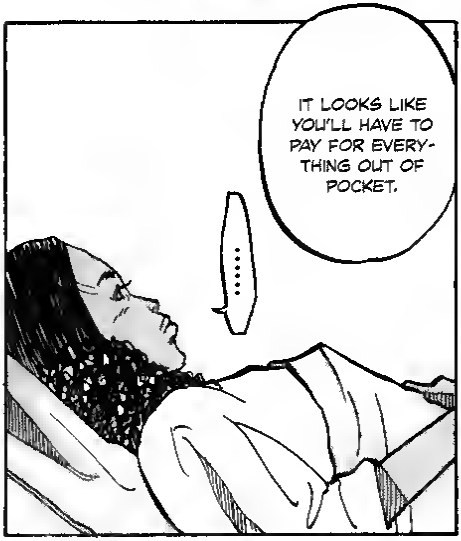
OKAY, GOOD, GOOD.
I'M GLAD THEY'RE BOTH ALRIGHT.

ONE MORE THING, DR. KOUNOTORI,

COME IN.
KNOCK KNOCK
DOC-TOR?
HOW ARE YOU FEELING?
WHERE'S YOUR HUSBAND?
CAN'T SAY I'M FEELING GOOD, BUT...
I SEE.
DOC-TOR,
HE'S BACK AT THE HOTEL.
I SENT HIM FOR A CHANGE OF CLOTHES AND TO GO WORK OUT MY SCHEDULE.

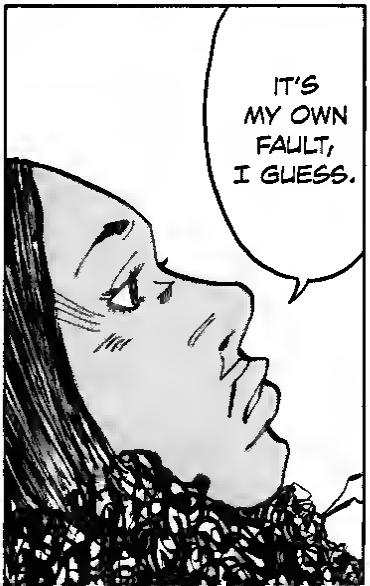

HE'S DOING GREAT.
HOW-EVER,
HOW IS MY BABY?
HE WAS BORN PREMATURELY,
AND HIS LUNGS AREN'T STRONG ENOUGH YET, SO HE HAD TO BE INTUBATED.
TWO MON-THS...!
IS THAT NORMAL?
THE PEDIATRICIAN WILL TELL YOU MORE WHEN HE COMES BY,
BUT WE BELIEVE YOUR BABY WILL NEED TO STAY IN THE NICU FOR AT LEAST TWO MONTHS.


IT'S NORMAL FOR BABIES...
...BORN AT 29 WEEKS.


IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL HAVE TO PAY FOR EVERY-THING OUT OF POCKET.
.....

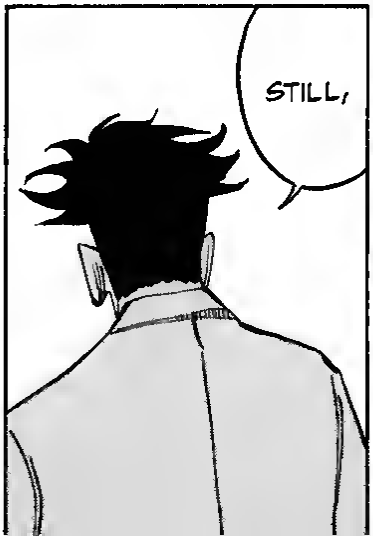
WE SPOKE WITH YOUR INSURANCE,
AND UNFOR-TUNATELY,

IT'S ALL BECAUSE I CAME TO JAPAN.

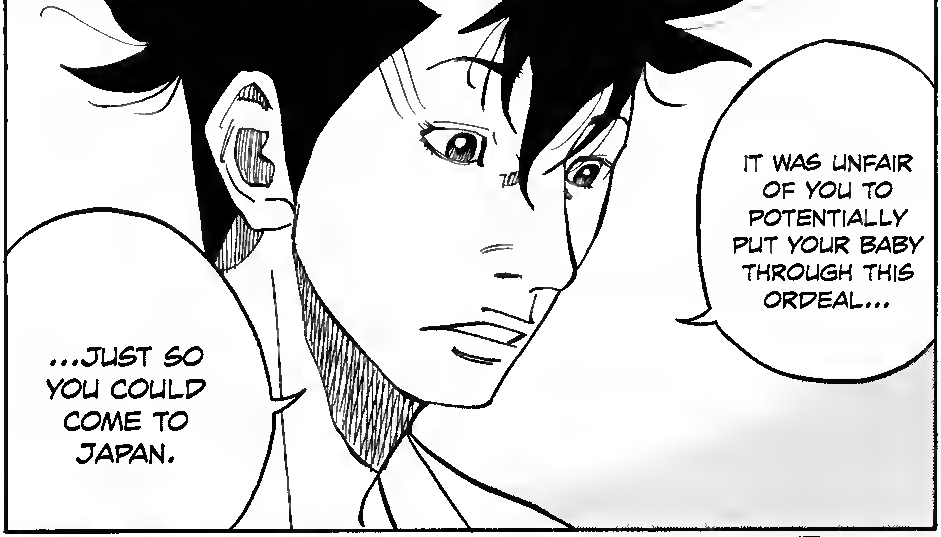

IT'S MY OWN FAULT, I GUESS.

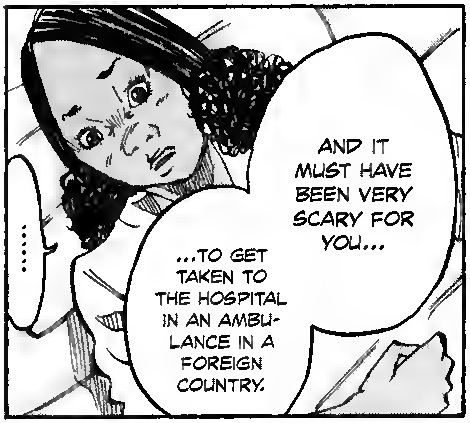
WE CAN'T KNOW THAT FOR SURE.
AFTER ALL, THE SAME THING MIGHT'VE HAPPENED...

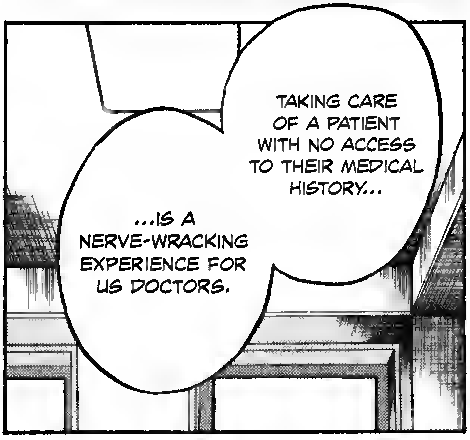
.....
...EVEN IF YOU HAD STAYED IN NEW YORK.

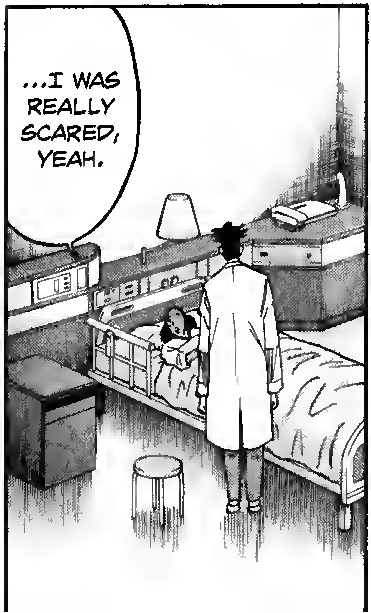

STILL,

PREGNANCY CAN BE VERY UNPREDICTABLE.


IT WAS UNFAIR OF YOU TO POTENTIALLY PUT YOUR BABY THROUGH THIS ORDEAL...
...JUST SO YOU COULD COME TO JAPAN.

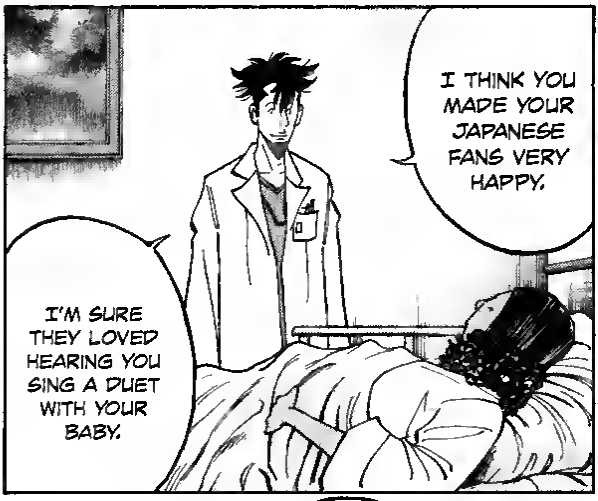

AND IT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY SCARY FOR YOU...
...TO GET TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL IN AN AMBULANCE IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY.
.....


TAKING CARE OF A PATIENT WITH NO ACCESS TO THEIR MEDICAL HISTORY...
...IS A NERVE-WRACKING EXPERIENCE FOR US DOCTORS.


...I WAS REALLY SCARED, YEAH.

IT MUST HAVE BEEN A NERVE-WRACKING EXPERIENCE FOR YOU, TOO.

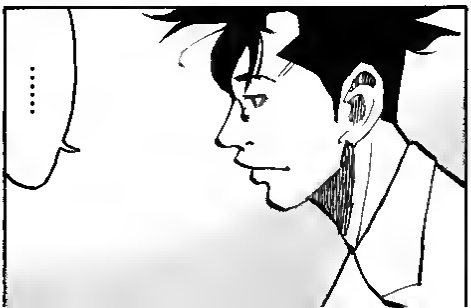
I WENT 'CAUSE I WANTED ALL MY JAPANESE FANS TO HEAR ME PERFORM WHILE I WAS PREGNANT...
IT WAS SELFISH OF ME.


I THINK YOU MADE YOUR JAPANESE FANS VERY HAPPY.
I'M SURE THEY LOVED HEARING YOU SING A DUET WITH YOUR BABY.

IF SOMETHING HAD HAPPENED TO MY BABY...

DON'T BE SCARED, ALISA.
HUH?

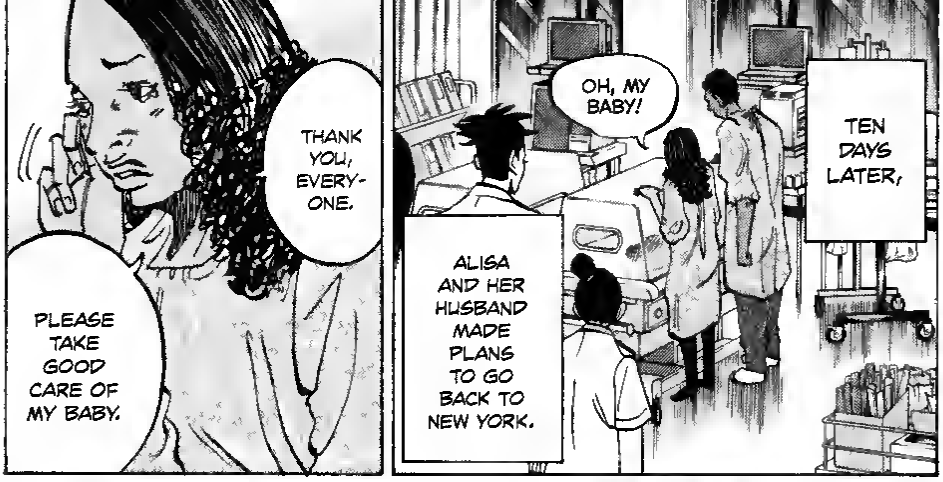
.....

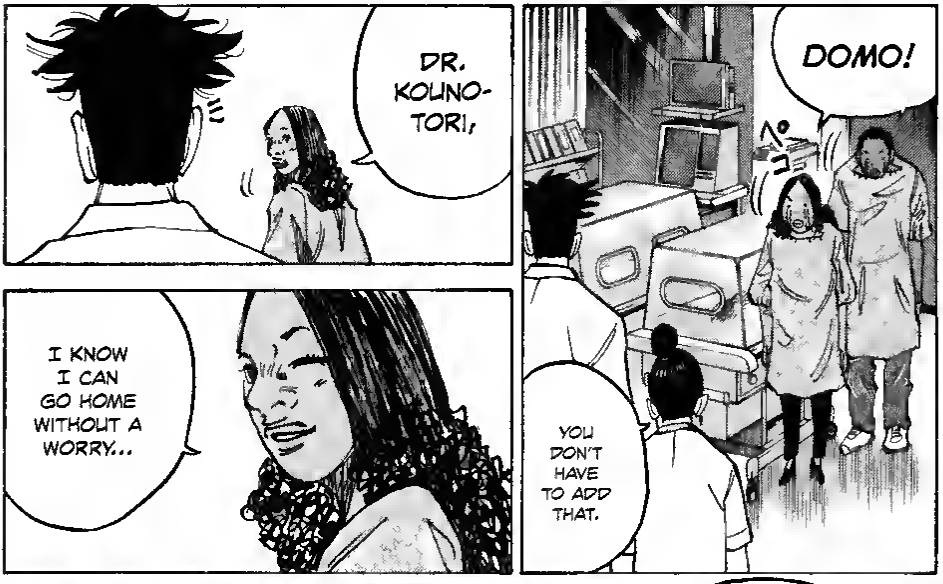

.....

AFTER ALL, YOU DID SAY...
...YOU'D KNOW YOU WERE IN GOOD HANDS IF SOMETHING HAPPENED.

...WAIT.

ARE YOU... BABY?


PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF MY BABY.
THANK YOU, EVERY-ONE.
ALISA AND HER HUSBAND MADE PLANS TO GO BACK TO NEW YORK.
OH, MY BABY!
TEN DAYS LATER,

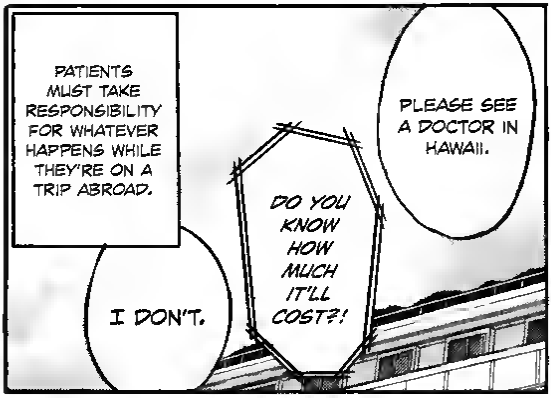

DR. KOUNO-TORI,
I KNOW I CAN GO HOME WITHOUT A WORRY...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ADD THAT.
DOMO!

WITH THAT, OFF SHE WENT.
...SINCE MY BABY'S IN YOUR CARE.

ALISA CALLED THE HOSPITAL TWENTY TIMES A DAY TO ASK ABOUT HER BABY.
.....
IS HE SAD THAT MOMMY'S NOT THERE?!
HOW'S MY BABY TODAY?! IS HE BEING A GOOD BOY?!
HOW-EVER...
YEAH, I KNOW...
SHE'S CLOGGING UP THE LINE.
THERE SHE IS AGAIN.
RING RING RING
AHHH! DR. SHINOMIYA, DON'T HANG UP ON HER!
CLICK
IS MY BABY...
...OKAY.
PLEASE TAKE IT, DR. KOU-NOTORI!
WHAT'S IT GONNA BE THIS TIME, "GIVE MY BABY A KISS FOR ME?"

IT'S ME, NEGISHI.
LABOR AND DELIVERY.
OH, NEGISHI-SAN, IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT?
AH, HELLO, DR. KOU-NOTORI?
BLEED-ING?
ACTUALLY, I JUST NOTICED I'M BLEEDING A LITTLE...
OKAY.
I'D LIKE YOU TO COME IN AS SOON AS YOU CAN.
UHH...

WE'RE IN HAWAII.
OHHHH.


PATIENTS MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHATEVER HAPPENS WHILE THEY'RE ON A TRIP ABROAD.
PLEASE SEE A DOCTOR IN HAWAII.
DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH IT'LL COST?!
I DON'T.

PLEASE, DOCTOR, CAN'T YOU COME HERE?!
SORRY, I CAN'T.

Alisa Rourke
OUR BIO/DISCOG
AT THE END SHE WROTE, "IF YOU'RE PREGNANT, DO NOT TRAVEL ABROAD! IT'LL BE A HUGE ORDEAL FOR BOTH YOUR HEART AND YOUR WALLET!"
NOT TOO LONG AFTER, ALISA ROURKE PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE ON HER WEBSITE ABOUT GIVING BIRTH IN JAPAN, WHERE SHE EXPRESSED HER THANKS TO OUR MEDICAL STAFF.

Kounotori: The Stork

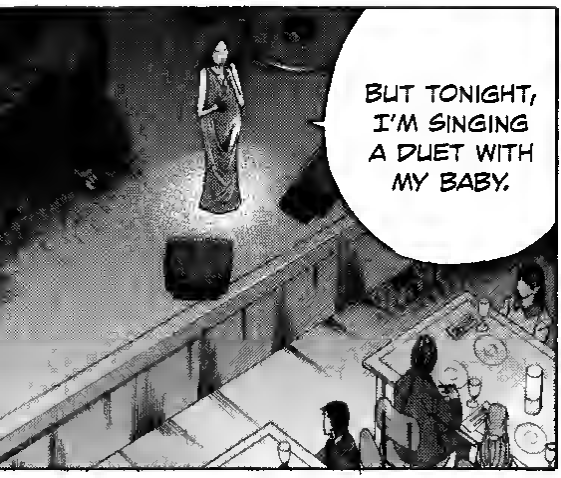
presented in English by Futari wa Pretty Anon

Translation & Typesetting by AnonBlack
Cleaning by Priggie

HQ direct download available on our website
prettyanonymo.us #prettyanon@irc.rizon.net

Whenever my super strict editor Mr. K calls, I panic a little.

TONIGHT'S PERFORMANCE IS A ONCE-IN-A LIFETIME EVENT, EVERYONE.


BUT TONIGHT, I'M SINGING A DUET WITH MY BABY.

THE LAST TIME I CAME TO PERFORM IN JAPAN, I WAS ALL ON MY OWN.
TONIGHT
Alisa Rourke

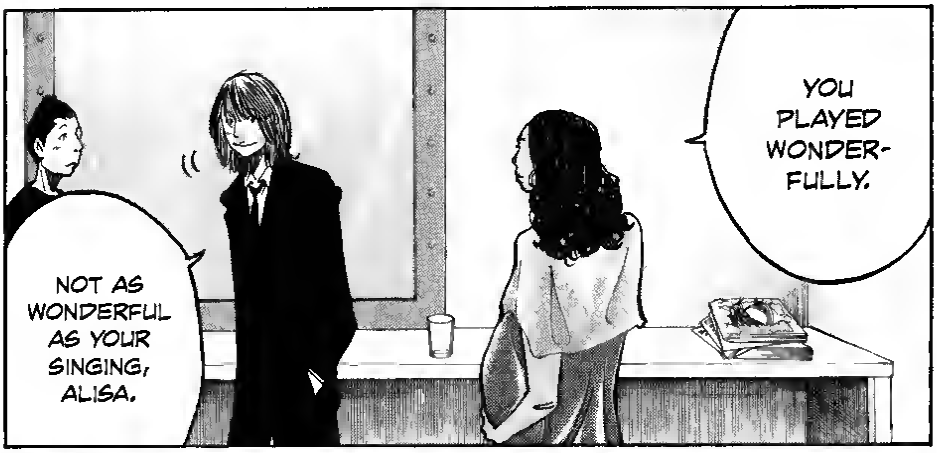
AND THERE'S ONE MORE BABY...
...WHO'S HERE AS OUR SPECIAL GUEST.

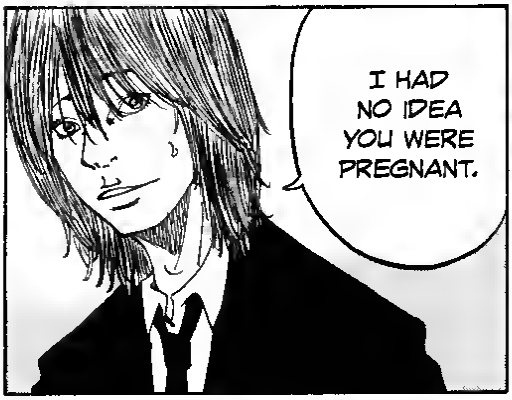
I'M EIGHT MONTHS PREGNANT.

HE'S A BELOVED PIANIST,
AND ONE OF MY BEST FRIENDS.

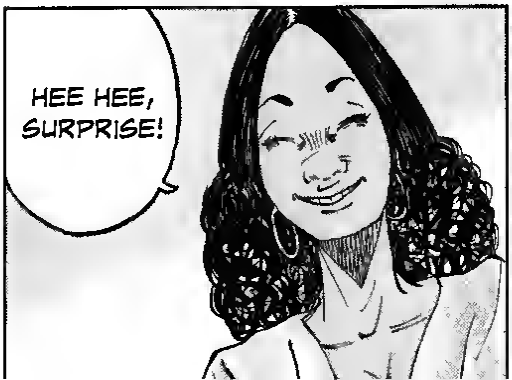
LET'S HEAR IT FOR BABY!

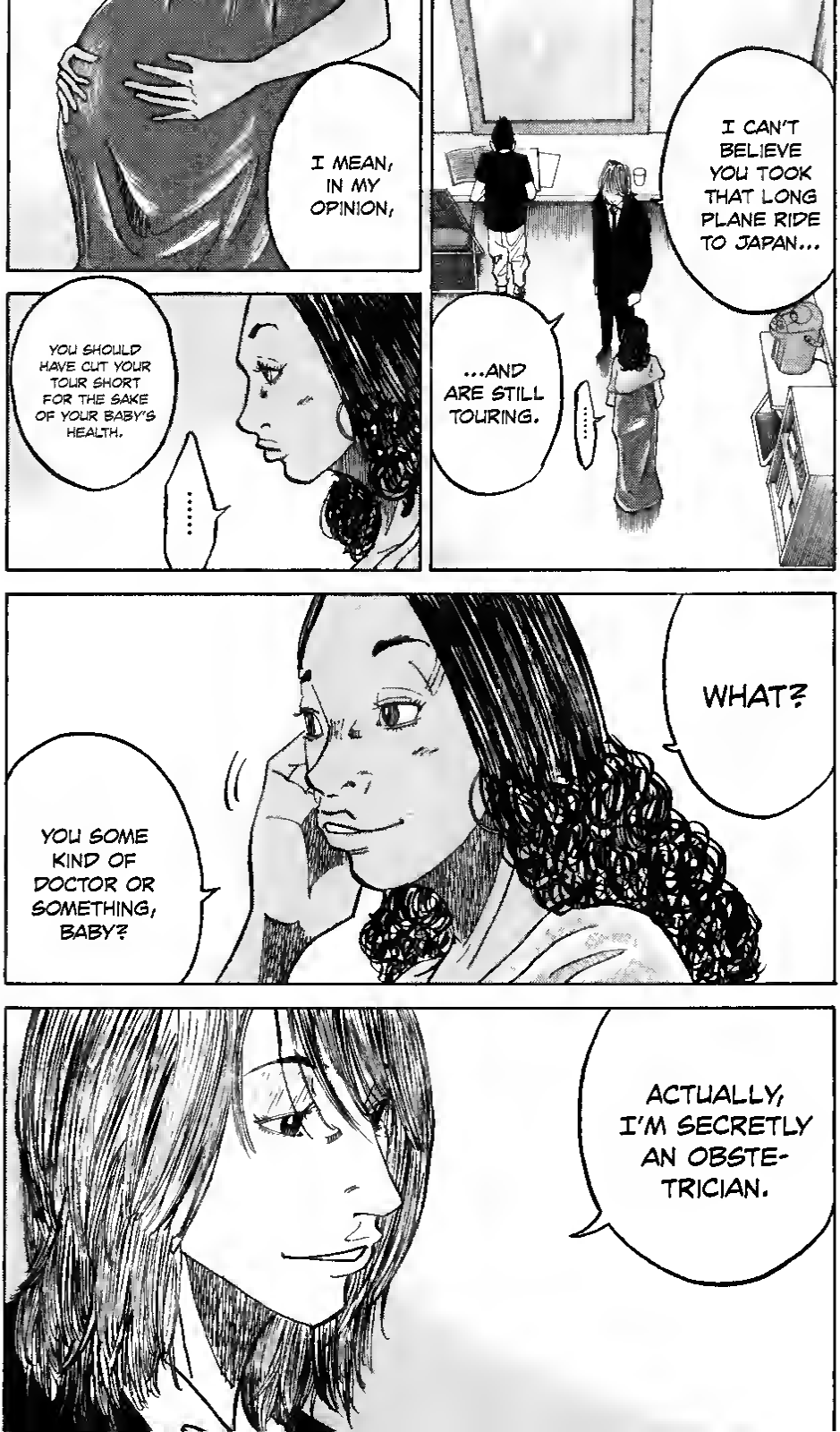
楽屋
Dressing room
STAFF ONLY
GREAT JOB OUT THERE TONIGHT, BABY.


YOU PLAYED WONDER-FULLY.
NOT AS WONDERFUL AS YOUR SINGING, ALISA.


I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE PREGNANT.

I'M SO GLAD I CAME TO PERFORM IN JAPAN.

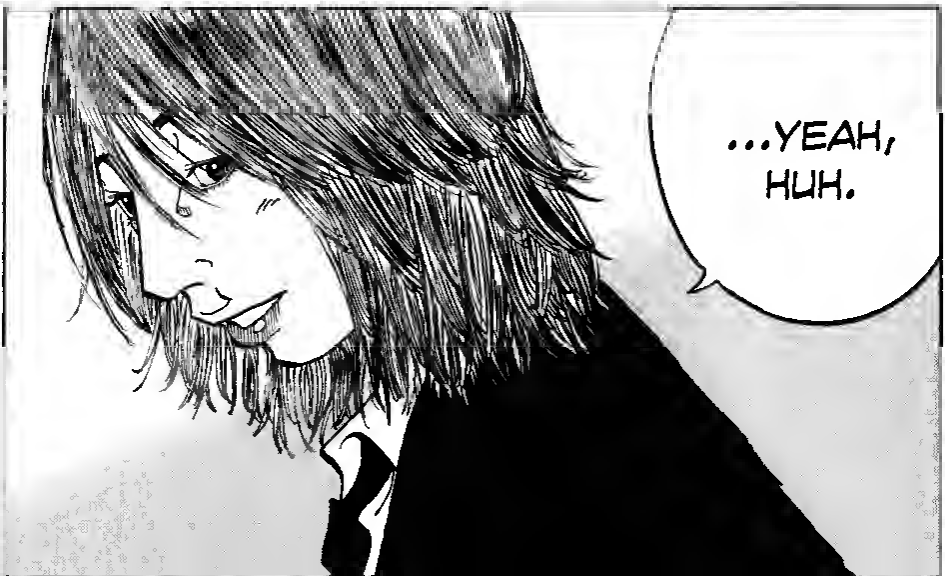

HEE HEE, SURPRISE!


I MEAN, IN MY OPINION,
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU TOOK THAT LONG PLANE RIDE TO JAPAN...
YOU SHOULD HAVE CUT YOUR TOUR SHORT FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR BABY'S HEALTH.
...AND ARE STILL TOURING.
WHAT?
YOU SOME KIND OF DOCTOR OR SOMETHING, BABY?
ACTUALLY, I'M SECRETLY AN OBSTE-TRICIAN.

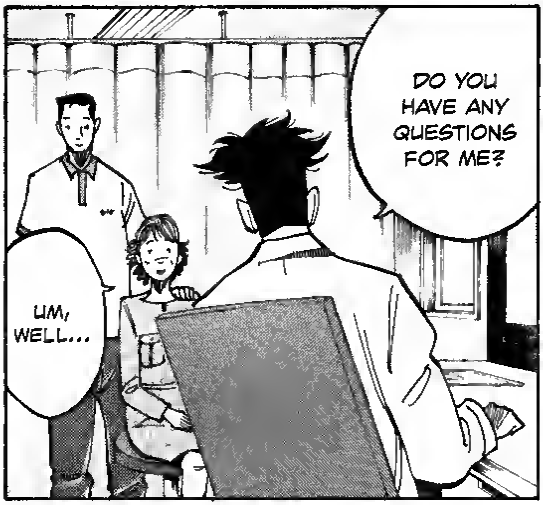
PFF!
AHAHAHA, THAT'S RIGHT, AND I'M SECRETLY A DENTIST!
HOW IS IT MY FAULT?
THAT'S RIGHT.
HAHA, SORRY.
STILL, IT'S KIND OF YOUR FAULT I CAME TO JAPAN, BABY.
I KEEP ASKING YOU TO COME PERFORM IN NEW YORK WITH ME,
BUT YOU NEVER COME!

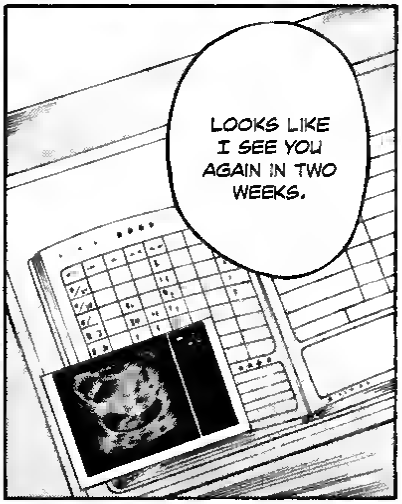
HEE HEE! WELL THEN, IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO ME WHILE I'M IN JAPAN, I'LL KNOW I'M IN GOOD HANDS.
THERE'S ALWAYS BABIES WAITING TO BE BORN.

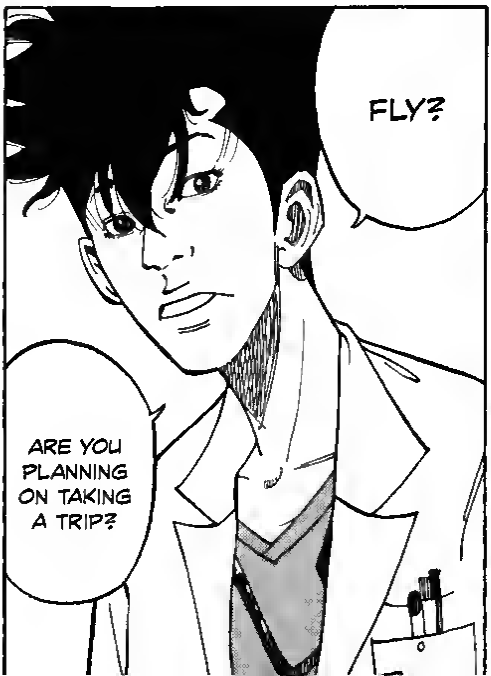
SHE TOTALLY THINKS YOU'RE JOKING...
THANK YOU, RICHARD.
ALISA! YOU WERE GREAT OUT THERE TONIGHT!


...YEAH, HUH.

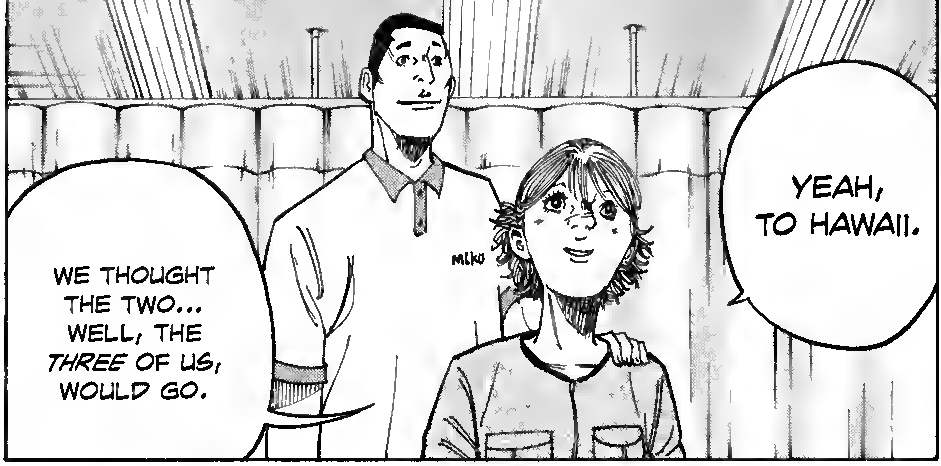
YOUR BABY IS DOING WELL, NEGISHI-SAN.

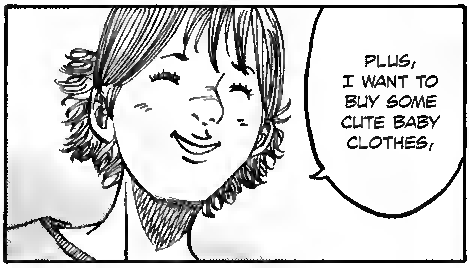

DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS FOR ME?
UM, WELL...


LOOKS LIKE I SEE YOU AGAIN IN TWO WEEKS.


FLY?
ARE YOU PLANNING ON TAKING A TRIP?

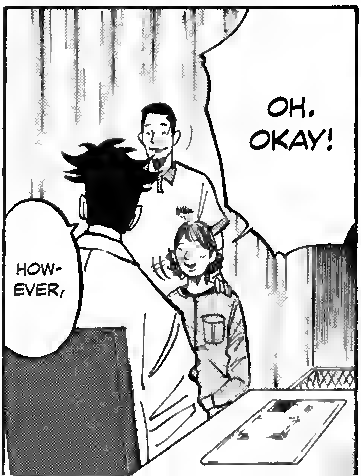
IS IT OKAY FOR ME TO FLY?

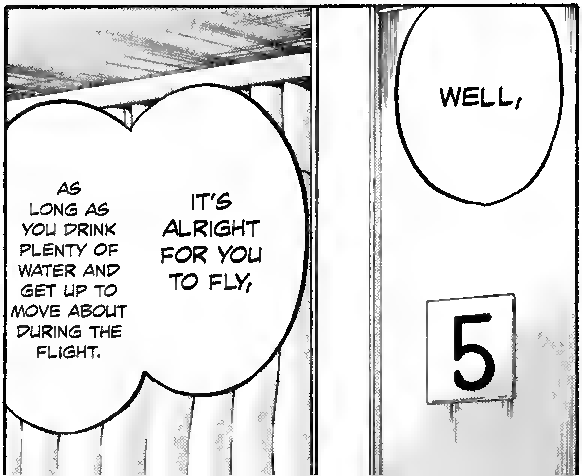

WE THOUGHT THE TWO... WELL, THE THREE OF US, WOULD GO.
MIKO
YEAH, TO HAWAII.

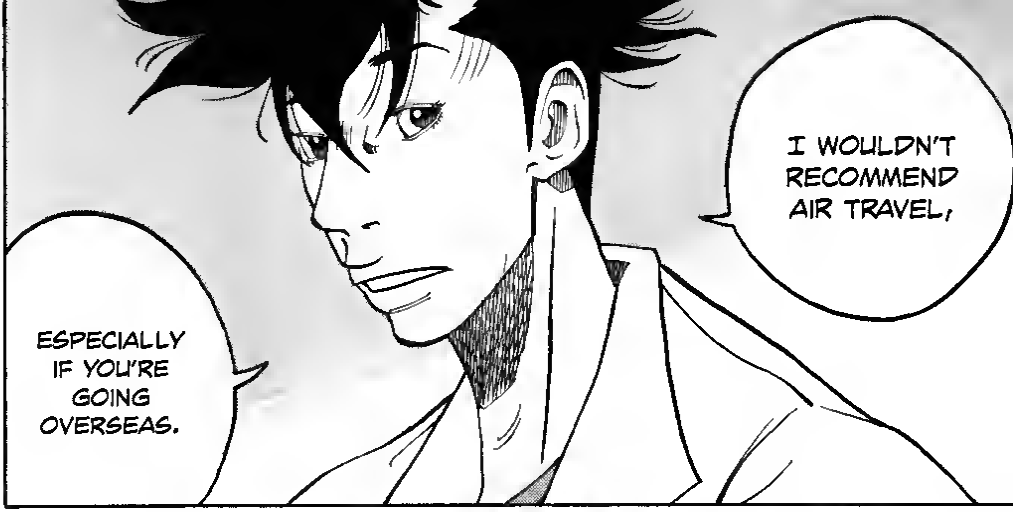

PLUS, I WANT TO BUY SOME CUTE BABY CLOTHES,

AFTER ALL, I'M IN THE MORE STABLE PERIOD OF MY PREGNANCY NOW,
AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE A VACATION ONCE THE BABY'S BORN.

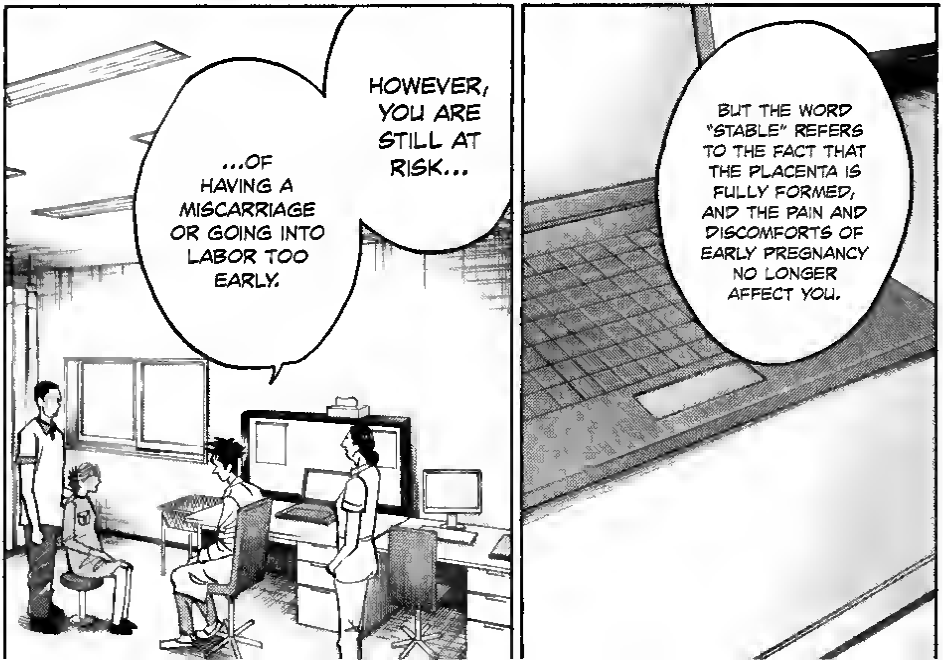
AND GET SOME COOL STUFF FOR THE BABY, TOO.
.....


OH. OKAY!
HOW-EVER,


AS LONG AS YOU DRINK PLENTY OF WATER AND GET UP TO MOVE ABOUT DURING THE FLIGHT.
IT'S ALRIGHT FOR YOU TO FLY,
WELL,
5

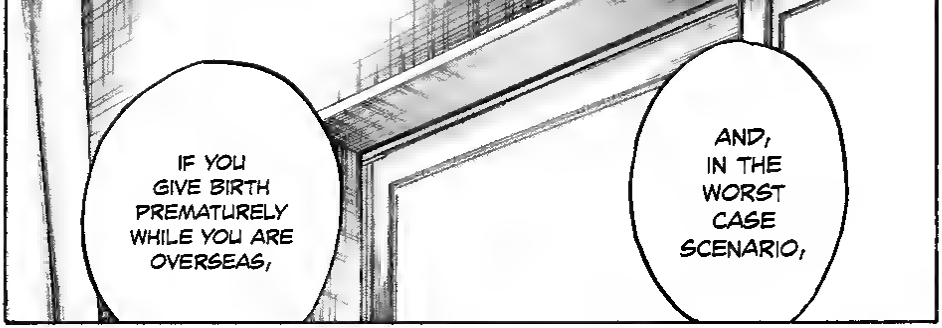

I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND AIR TRAVEL,
ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE GOING OVERSEAS.

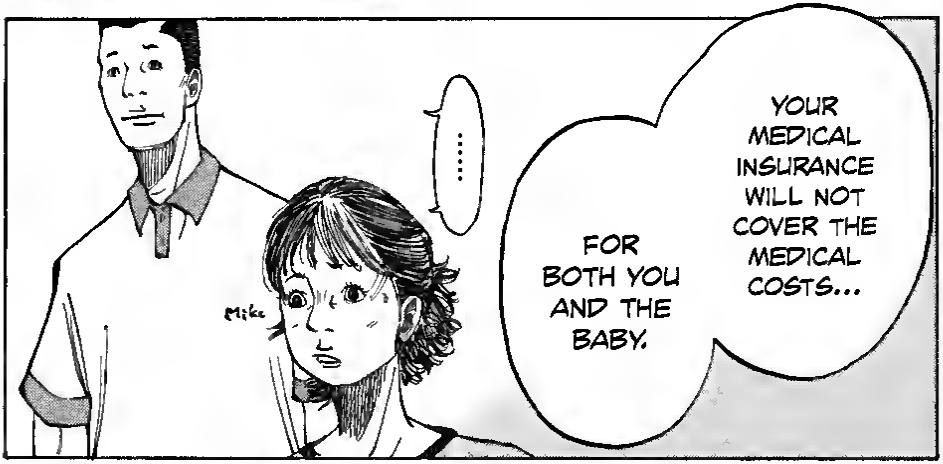
HUH...?
IT'S TRUE THAT YOU ARE IN THE MORE STABLE PERIOD OF YOUR PREGNANCY,


HOWEVER, YOU ARE STILL AT RISK...
...OF HAVING A MISCARRIAGE OR GOING INTO LABOR TOO EARLY.
BUT THE WORD "STABLE" REFERS TO THE FACT THAT THE PLACENTA IS FULLY FORMED, AND THE PAIN AND DISCOMFORTS OF EARLY PREGNANCY NO LONGER AFFECT YOU.

THE REASON I DON'T RECOMMEND GOING OVERSEAS
.....
IS NOT BECAUSE OF THE LONG PLANE RIDE,
.....
BUT BECAUSE THERE'S NOTHING I, AS YOUR DOCTOR, CAN DO...
IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO YOU OVER THERE.
FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU SUDDENLY STARTED HAVING ABDOMINAL PAIN,
WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE.
AND THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT THERE'LL BE A MEDICAL CENTER OPEN 24/7 AT YOUR DESTINATION.
THERE'S ALSO THE PROBLEM OF A LANGUAGE BARRIER,
IF YOU DON'T SPEAK THE LANGUAGE SPOKEN IN THE COUNTRY YOU'RE VISITING.
NEGISHI-SAN,
HAVE YOU ASKED YOUR MEDICAL INSURANCE IF THEY COVER COSTS INCURRED OVERSEAS?

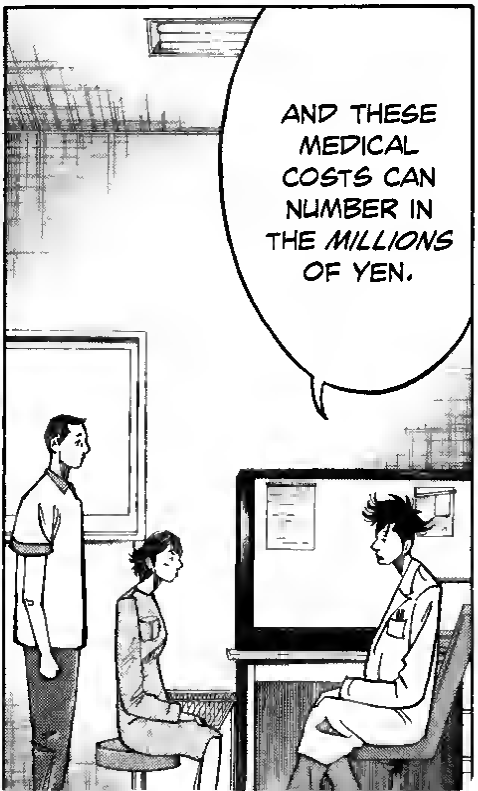
AFTER ALL, THE BABY...
...IS MUCH MORE IMPOR-TANT.
AH... NO.
BUT... WE WERE GOING TO MAKE SURE WE WERE FULLY PREPARED BEFORE WE GO.
...WILL NOT COVER MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS OR PROCE-DURES...
MOST JAPANESE MEDICAL INSURANCE COMPANIES...
FOR WOMEN WHO ARE MORE THAN 22 WEEKS PREGNANT.


IF YOU GIVE BIRTH PREMATURELY WHILE YOU ARE OVERSEAS,
AND, IN THE WORST CASE SCENARIO,


Mike
.....
FOR BOTH YOU AND THE BABY.
YOUR MEDICAL INSURANCE WILL NOT COVER THE MEDICAL COSTS...

M...

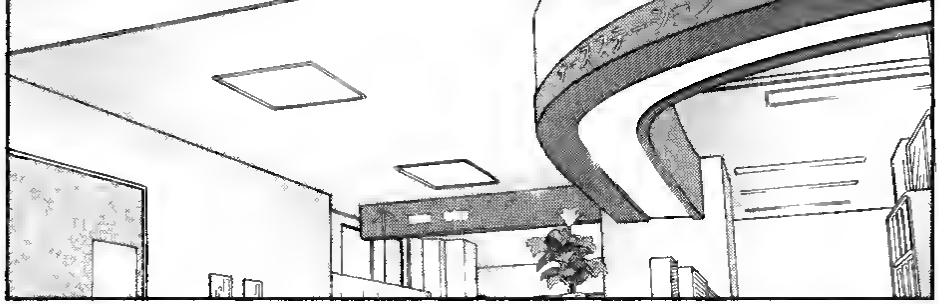
MILLIONS...

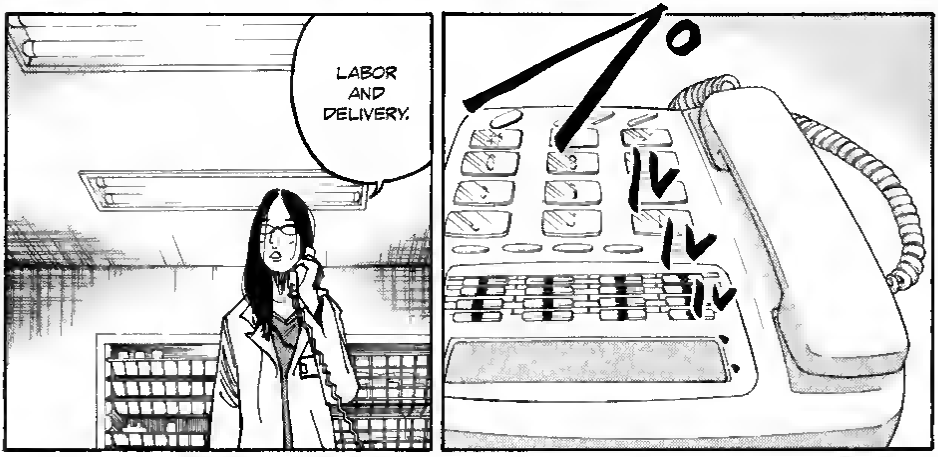

AND THESE MEDICAL COSTS CAN NUMBER IN THE MILLIONS OF YEN.

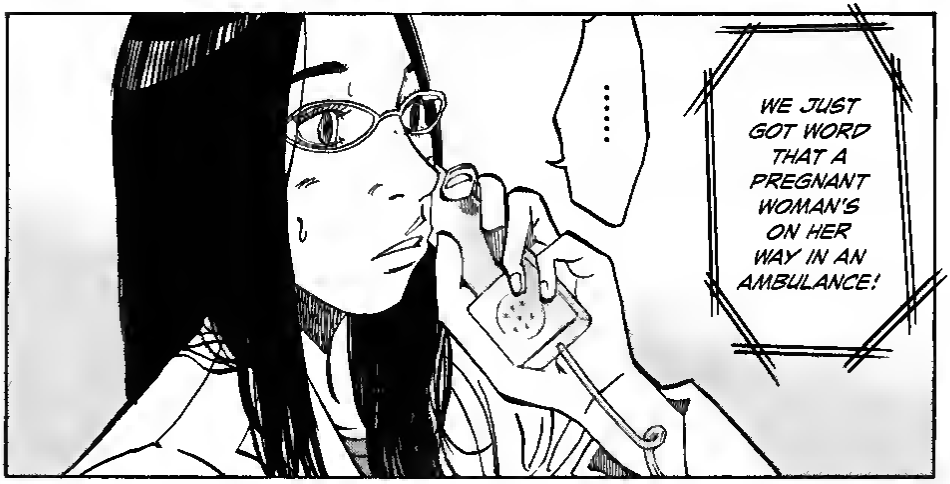
I CAN'T FORCE YOU TO STAY.
IF YOU WANT TO GO ON YOUR TRIP,

I CAN'T SEE YOU OFF WITH A SMILE.
BUT AS YOUR DOCTOR,

I'D LIKE YOU TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER IT AGAIN BEFORE MAKING A DECISION.
.....



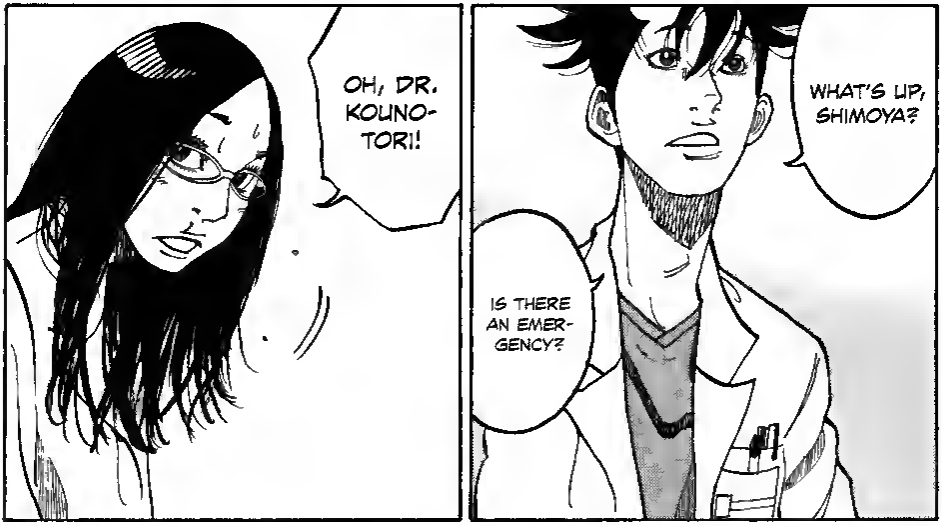

LABOR AND DELIVERY.
プルルルル


.....
WE JUST GOT WORD THAT A PREGNANT WOMAN'S ON HER WAY IN AN AMBULANCE!

YOU KNOW.
THAT'S ALL THE RAGE NOW,

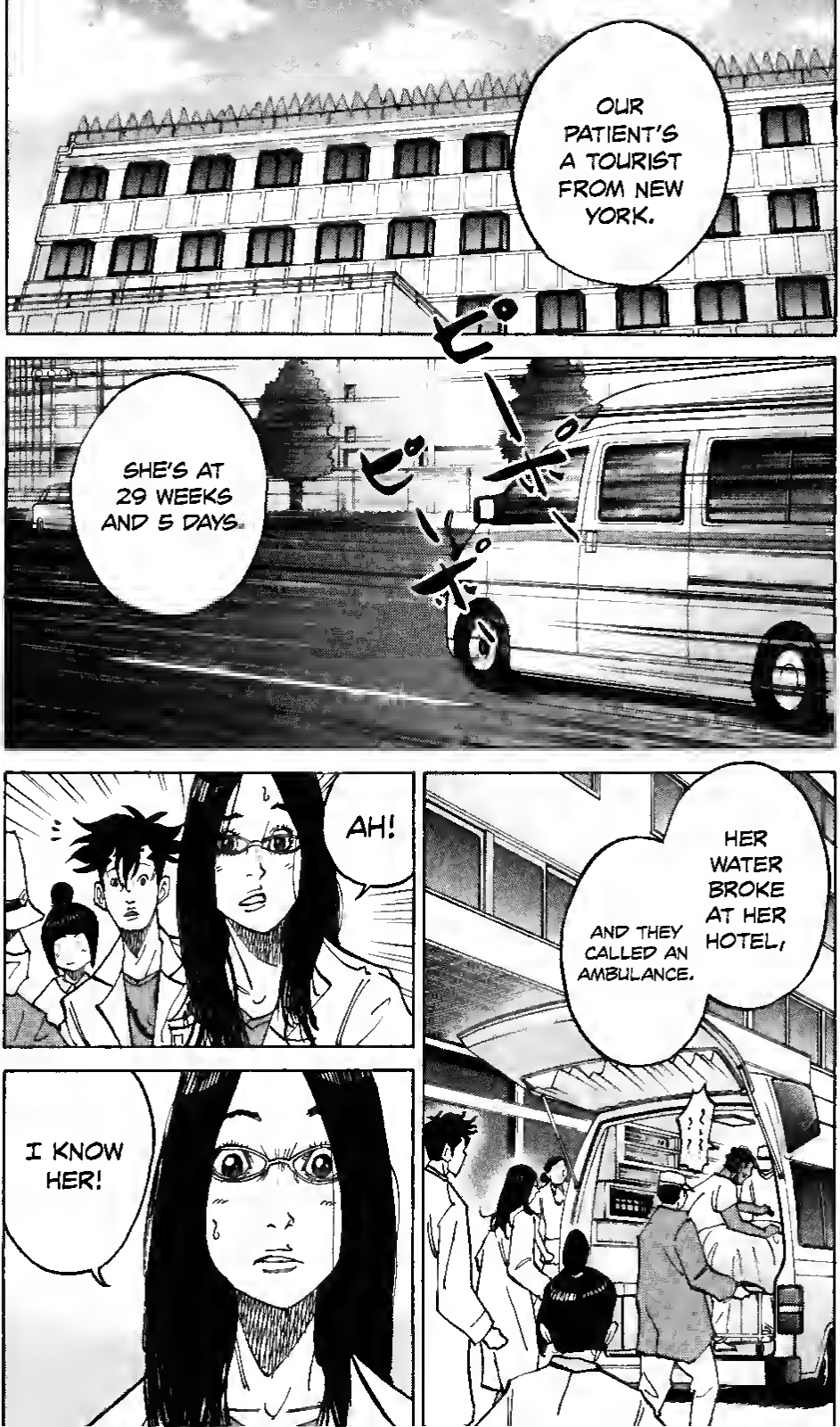
HUH.
MAN, THEY'RE GOING TO HAWAII?
I WANNA GO TO HAWAII.
ME TOO.
WANNA GO WITH ME?
NOOO.
WHAT'S ALL THE RAGE?
THEY CALL IT A MATERNITY TRIP", GOING ON VACATION WHILE YOU'RE PREGNANT.
MAYBE NOTHING WILL HAPPEN,
AND SHE'LL HAVE A NICE, SAFE TRIP.
BUT IT WOULD REALLY SUCK IF SOMETHING DID HAPPEN.
.....

SHE'LL BE HERE IN FIFTEEN MINUTES!
RIGHT!


OH, DR. KOUNO-TORI!
WHAT'S UP, SHIMOYA?
IS THERE AN EMER-GENCY?

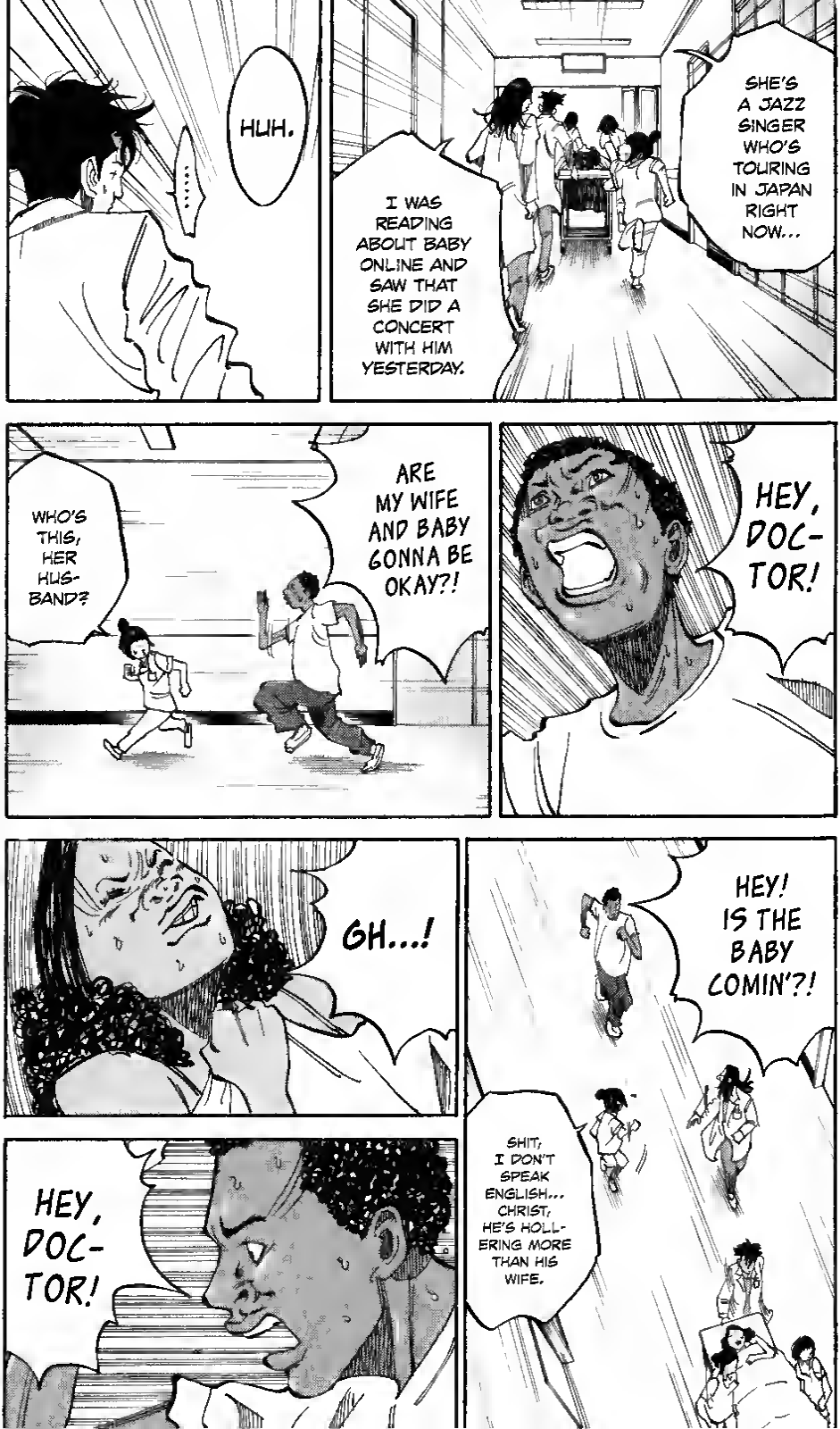
THERE'S A PREGNANT WOMAN IN LABOR ON HER WAY.
ピーポー
ピーポー

APPARENTLY SHE'S A TOURIST FROM NEW YORK.
.....
NEW YORK?


OUR PATIENT'S A TOURIST FROM NEW YORK.
ピーポーピーポー
SHE'S AT 29 WEEKS AND 5 DAYS.
AH!
I KNOW HER!
HER WATER BROKE AT HER HOTEL,
AND THEY CALLED AN AMBULANCE.

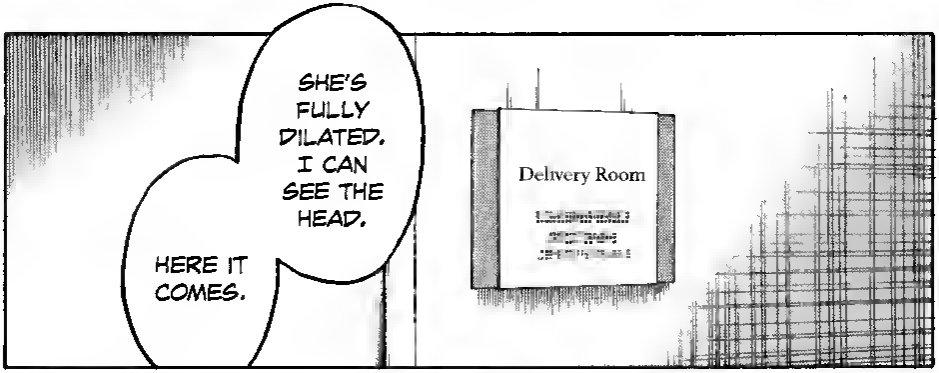
SHE'S ALISA ROURKE...
.....

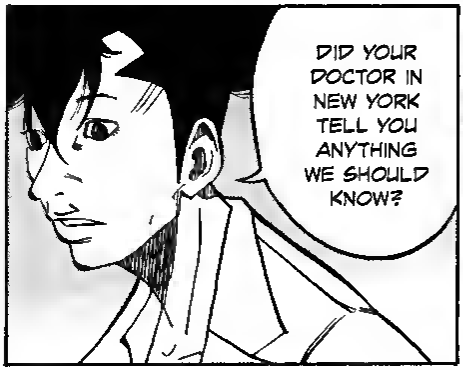
WAIT, DR. SHIMOYA, YOU KNOW HER?!
HUH? OH, YEAH...

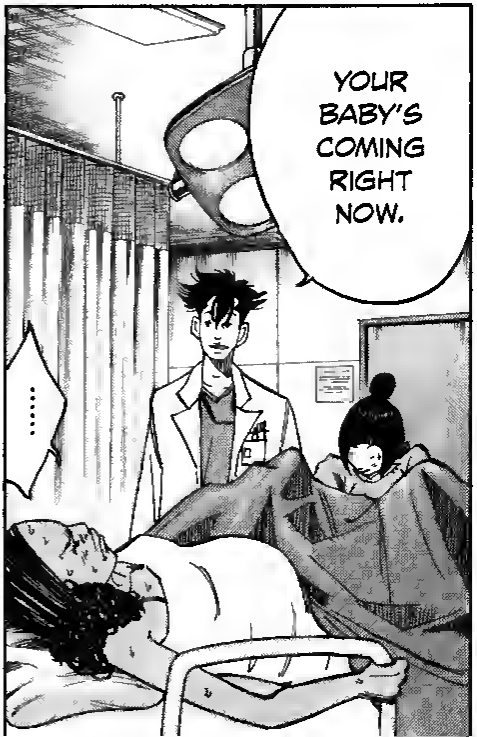

HUH.
.....
I WAS READING ABOUT BABY ONLINE AND SAW THAT SHE DID A CONCERT WITH HIM YESTERDAY.
SHE'S A JAZZ SINGER WHO'S TOURING IN JAPAN RIGHT NOW...
WHO'S THIS, HER HUS-BAND?
ARE MY WIFE AND BABY GONNA BE OKAY?!
HEY, DOC-TOR!
GH...!
HEY! IS THE BABY COMIN'?!
SHIT, I DON'T SPEAK ENGLISH... CHRIST, HE'S HOLL-ERING MORE THAN HIS WIFE.
HEY, DOC-TOR!

THE HELL
CALM
.....
SHUT UP!
YOU'RE THE HUSBAND, RIGHT?!
GH!
DOWN!
DOCTOR, MY BABY, IS...
.....
CHRIST.
IT'S ALRIGHT.
YOU'RE AT THE HOSPITAL NOW.

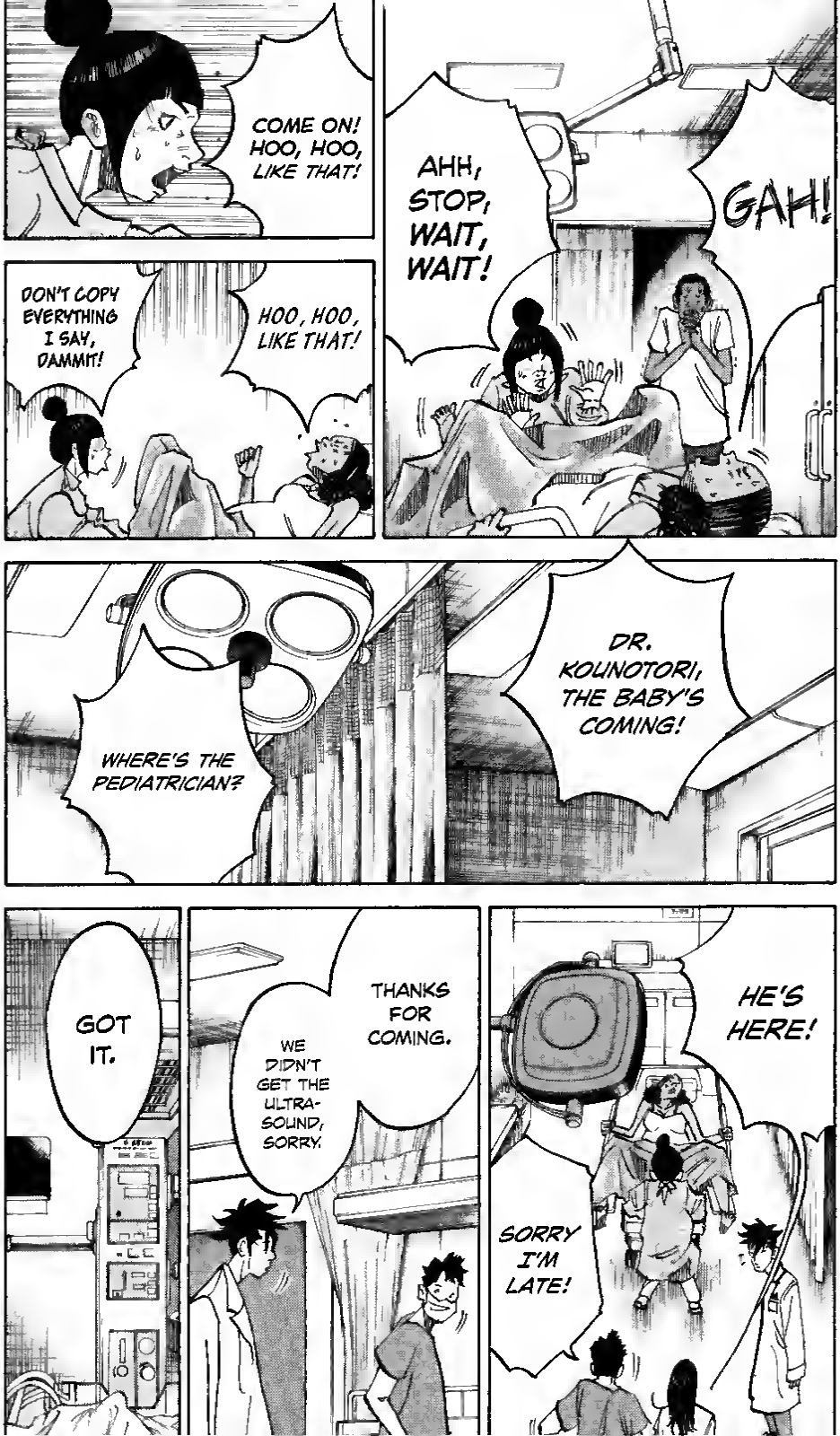
EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE ALRIGHT.
.....


SHE'S FULLY DILATED. I CAN SEE THE HEAD.
HERE IT COMES.
Delivery Room


DID YOUR DOCTOR IN NEW YORK TELL YOU ANYTHING WE SHOULD KNOW?


YOUR BABY'S COMING RIGHT NOW.
.....

NO.


COME ON! HOO, HOO, LIKE THAT!
AHH, STOP, WAIT, WAIT!
GAH!
DON'T COPY EVERYTHING I SAY, DAMMIT!
HOO, HOO, LIKE THAT!
DR. KOUNOTORI, THE BABY'S COMING!
WHERE'S THE PEDIATRICIAN?
GOT IT.
WE DIDN'T GET THE ULTRA-SOUND, SORRY.
THANKS FOR COMING.
HE'S HERE!
SORRY I'M LATE!